



**Union of Brunel Students**

**2013-2014 Policy & Motions**

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## MOTION

**Title: Motion to amend Bye Law H, 3.4.5.1**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 01**

**From: Matt Cahill, RAG Chair**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 (postponed October Meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

That RAG is a student led charity fundraising group.

That Bye Law H, 3.4.5.1 currently mandates the RAG Committee to shortlist a number of charities for the Students of Brunel to vote upon.

### **This Union Believes**

That the responsibility of nominating charities is one that should belong to the wider student body, as RAG is a student led organisation.

That the nomination & voting system for Charity selection implemented over summer 2013 was a success, with around 250+ individual Brunel students voting on the 10 charities nominated by students.

### **This Union Resolves**

That Bye law H, 3.4.5.1 should be amended to read "The main Charities that RAG support should be selected via a nomination & vote system, with Brunel Students responsible for the nominations as well as the voting."

### **This Union Mandates**

The RAG Chair & RAG Chair Elect with support of Vice President Student Activities.

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**Proposed by:** Matt Cahill

**Seconded by:** Cam McKirdy

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Change the Union meetings Byelaws**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 01**

**From: Martin Zaranyika**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

Currently the byelaws required there to be at least one Union Meeting per Term  
The Constitution requires no less than two per year

Currently Student Assembly Members are bound to attend union meetings

### **This Union Believes**

In Term two there is often little time for there to be a Union meeting and in the past one has not been held.

There has also been little call for a Union meeting in Term two.

Assembly members should be attending Union meetings as members not as representatives as these are meetings where the student body represents itself.

### **This Union Resolves**

To amend the byelaws to have Two Union meetings a year.

To remove the requirement for assembly members to attend Union meetings.

To amend any other areas of the byelaw to meet the requirements and spirit of this motion (initial changes are attached).

### **This Union Mandates**

The President to ensure that the Byelaws are amended as required

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**Proposed by: Martin Zaranyika**

**Seconded by: Zein Owfar**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

**By-law change suggestion for Union Meetings**

This document aims to put forward suggested changes to Union meetings in order to avoid the current confusion we have faced this year with student assembly business being voted on in Union meetings causing a large amount of confusion.

In Addition to the Bye law changes below we will need the reword By-law G 1. to reflect Bye-law F 1.

The suggestions outlined do not conflict with the current Constitution

**Bye-Law F  
Union Meetings**

**Frequency**

1. There shall be ~~one Union Meeting per academic term, which shall take place instead of the Student Assembly Meeting for the month in which it falls.~~ **One Union Meeting in the First academic term and the Final academic term.**
- 1.1. The Annual Union Meeting shall be the Union Meeting that occurs in the summer term of each academic year.
2. The President is responsible for ensuring that Union Meetings, including Emergency Union Meetings are publicised. If the President is unable to fulfil this responsibility it shall pass to the remaining Student Officers. Failure to meet this responsibility shall constitute grounds for a motion of censure against the Student Officers at the next Union Meeting.
- 2.1. A Union Meeting shall be called by at least 10 working days written notice.

**Comment [s1]:** Make this inline with current practice

**Comment [s2]:** Remove and have union meetings in addition to SA to allow SA not to discuss their business in assembly which can confuse and disenfranchise students.

**Membership**

3. ~~Student Assembly Members are bound to attend Union Meetings. Any Student Assembly Member failing to attend two Union Meetings during an academic year without adequate apologies shall be considered to have resigned from Student Assembly.~~
4. All Full Union Members shall hold voting rights at Union Meetings.

**Comment [s3]:** Remove this section as if in attendance they should be their in their own right not as representatives as it is not student assembly.

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Elect 6 specific RAG Committee positions**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 01**

**From: Matt Cahill, RAG Chair**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

That there is currently no specific list of positions for RAG Committee Elections.

That the RAG Committee Elections only elect a number of “RAG Team” members, and it is the RAG Chairs’ responsibility to delegate specific Committee roles.

### **This Union Believes**

That by electing individuals into specific outlined roles, the committee would be strengthened, because nominees would be targeting a particular position that is relevant to their interests/skills etc.

### **This Union Resolves**

That in Bye laws 3.4 the following should be added “The RAG Committee shall consist of the following positions; Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Club/Society Officer, Events Coordinator, & Media Officer.”

### **This Union Mandates**

The RAG Chair & RAG Chair Elect with support of Vice President Student Activities.

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**Proposed by:** Matt Cahill

**Seconded by:** Cam McKirdy

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Elect Standing Committees in Term 3**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 01**

**From: Martin Zaranyika (UBS President)**

**Date: 7 November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

That there is currently no set date, or period, where the standing committees are elected.

That by not electing committees before summer incoming chairs are left to deliver one of the most important weeks of the year, alone.

### **This Union Believes**

That outgoing chairs work with incoming chairs on promoting and delivering the committee election process, the incoming Chairs will be in a better position to work said committee.

That the longer standing committees & committee chairs have to work with one another before term begins, the more successful they will be together.

### **This Union Resolves**

That in Bye-laws H 1.1 the following should be added 'With the exception of the student representation forum committee, elections for standing committee will take place before the end of term 3 so post-holders can take effective office before the summer recess'

### **This Union Mandates**

The President, to ensure that bye-laws change.

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**Proposed by:** Martin Zaranyika

**Seconded by:** Cam McKirdy

**Signature:**

**Signature:**



## MOTION

**Title: Change to Bye law H, 3.5 Student Representative Forum Committee**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 1**

**From: Zein Owfar (VP Academic Representation)**

**Date: 7 November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

1. Currently the Byelaws have a Standing Committee outlined for a student Representatives.
2. This committee has not run over the past few years and was replaced by a senior rep committee
3. The Union also runs congress meetings will all reps regularly throughout the year

### **This Union Believes**

1. Senior rep committee with congress running alongside has been very effective over the last year, and it would be best to update the byelaws to mirror current practice
2. We also feel that this existing committee could be better utilised by empowering not only senior reps but Assembly school members and the postgraduate chair to run academic campaigns in their schools.
3. This change would allow Assembly school members to have a broader job remit and also allow for better engagement with Course reps, meaning they will be more effective at representing their school.

### **This Union Resolves**

1. To amend the Byelaw H 3.5 to read:

*3.5 Student Representative Forum Committee*

*3.5.1 The aims of the School and Senior Rep Committees are:*

*i. To facilitate communication between Student Representatives and School members of Student Assembly*

*ii. To provide a link between students and the UBS*

*iii. To provide a route for Student Representatives to make recommendations to Student Assembly*

*iv. To focus on academic issues in schools*

*3.5.2 The School and Senior Representative Committee shall be responsible for campaigning on academic issues in schools and supporting and leading the UBS in running academic campaigns and events, including the running of Monthly School congress meetings with all representatives in their schools.*

*3.5.3 Membership shall include:*

- i. Postgraduate Chair*
- ii. Senior representatives*
- iii. School Assembly Representatives*
- iv. Vice-president Academic Representation*

*3.5.4 The Vice-President Academic Representation shall chair the meetings.*

2. In addition to this change the committee will meet at least once a month in line with the current rules binding standing committees under Byelaw H, 1. Which will be updated to reflect the change to the standing committee.
3. This standing committee will also be exempt from Bye-law H, 1.1. As this related to membership of standing committees which will not apply to this committee as it has its own membership outlined in the amendment.

#### **This Union Mandates**

1. The VP Academic to take a lead in the formation and running of this new committee

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**Proposed by: Zein Owfar**

**Seconded by: James Ward**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Eject Ineffective Committee Members**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 01**

**From: Hannah Jones**

**Date: 7 November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

Currently 4 Standing committees; RAG, Sports Federation, Societies Guild and Media Association

Currently no policy in place to hold Standing Committee Members to account for their attendance and commitment to their role

### **This Union Believes**

That by putting a policy in place so that committee members can be held to account will make those committee members more likely to contribute and push forward their respected remits.

### **This Union Resolves**

Within the Bye laws, Committee members will be removed after neglecting to attend 3 meetings without appropriate apologies being sent.

### **This Union Mandates**

The Standing Committee Chairs will keep a record of attendance & make aware to their committee the roles they need to fulfil as volunteers.

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**Proposed by:** Hannah Jones

**Seconded by:** Matt Cahill

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Lobby the University to support the creation of, and to create volunteering opportunities abroad.**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: Meeting 01**

**From: Jemima Khalli, Volunteer Group Chair**

**Date: 7 November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **The Union Notes**

That volunteering provides key life skills such as responsibility, teamwork, time management, and self-motivation to name a few.

That volunteering creates good community relations. Furthermore it also develops your awareness of the community around you.

That the Union of Brunel Students has employed a strategic plan to follow.

That there has been an increase of students wanting to volunteer; last year there was a record breaking 110% increase in hours.

### **This Union Believes**

That Brunel Students are properly supported and represented. This is achieved through the voices of Brunel Students. Many are inquiring whether they can volunteer abroad via the university.

That engaging with off campus stakeholders, Brunel students can enjoy a full and rounded University experience alongside sector-leading opportunities for their development.

### **This Union Resolves**

To meet with the university to discuss researching viable options re: volunteering abroad and to discuss a plan with the university in order to tackle 'voluntourism'.

### **This Union Mandates**

The UBS Volunteer Chair and Vice President Community Welfare to research the viable options available to achieve volunteering options abroad and submit these options to the university.

**Proposed by: Jemima Khalli**  
**Signature:**

**Seconded by: James Ward**  
**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: UBS to sign the Time to Change pledge**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 01**

**From: Victoria Wallis**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

1. 20% of students consider themselves to have a mental health problem
2. 87% of people who suffer from mental health problems have experienced stigma and discrimination
3. 'Time to Change' is the biggest campaign in the country challenging mental health stigma and discrimination
4. The 'Time to Change' pledge is a public statement of aspiration that an organisation wants to tackle mental health stigma and discrimination

### **This Union Believes**

1. Every student at Brunel should feel safe and supported at all times
2. Mental health stigma and discrimination needs to be tackled
3. Any student experiencing mental health problems shouldn't be discriminated against

### **This Union Resolves**

1. Complete the action plan required to sign the Time to Change pledge
2. Sign the Time to Change organisational pledge by the end of the 2013/14 academic year

### **This Union Mandates**

1. The Vice President Community Welfare, Equality and Diversity Chair and Campaigns Chair to work together to ensure all appropriate steps are taken to sign the Time to Change organisational pledge
2. The Vice President Community Welfare to update monthly to student assembly on the progress of this campaign
3. To lobby the university to also sign the Time to Change pledge

**Proposed by: Victoria Wallis**

**Seconded by: Robyn Fitzharris**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Accommodation Steering Group**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 01**

**From: Martin Zaranyika (UBS President)**

**Date: 7 November 2013 (postponed October meeting)**

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### **This Union Notes**

1. Deposit fees have now been frozen for the next 3 academic years
2. Some students have expressed their dissatisfaction with overall services within residences as prices have been increased and services have been reduced
3. Currently postgraduates students have to move out of halls two week before their dissertation deadline
4. Currently non-academic debt will impact on academic progress
5. A significant proportion of students loans is spent on rental expenditure

### **This Union Believes**

1. Students should be given value for money
2. Student voice matters especially in terms of services on campus
3. We have a responsibility to effectively represent our students and convey their concerns to the University senior management

### **This Union Resolves**

- 1) To research the views of students on accommodation
- 2) Use students to shape accommodation in the future
- 3) To set an action plan to address how best we can deal with the issues

### **This Union Mandates**

The President and Vice-President Community Welfare create a steering group  
The President and Vice-President Community Welfare to update student assembly on actions the group will take to address the issues stated above.

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**Proposed by: Martin Zaranyika (UBS President)**

**Signature:**

**Seconded by: James Ward (Vice-President Community Welfare)**

**Signature**

## MOTION

**Title: Communications Motion**

**To: Union Meeting**

**From: Juhani Mäntyranta (Worldstudents Chair) and Martin Zaranyika (UBS President)**

**Date: Tuesday 28 November 2013**

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### **This Union Notes**

That apart from the minutes of Student Assembly and Annual Union Meetings, nothing else is officially communicated to the student body.

That a part of the student body does not know about the decisions made within Student Assembly or Annual Union Meetings.

That not all minutes, or the full reports of previous Student Assembly and Annual Union Meeting, are accessible for the students.

### **This Union Believes**

That every Brunel student should know what Student Assembly and Annual Union Meetings has decided.

That increased knowledge of the Unions decisions, will lead to increased student involvement.

### **This Union Resolves**

To write a news story to Brunelstudents.com within 5 working days of a Student Assembly meeting and Annual Union Meeting, including a link to the full minutes of the meeting.

To create a video blog, where the Student Assembly and Annual Union Meeting decisions are explained.

That any Brunel student is welcome to attend, and write about the decisions made at Student Assembly and The Annual Union Meetings.

To install within byelaw G a communications protocol

### **This Union Mandates**

The Chair of Student Assembly, and the President, to work with the necessary staff, to create a Communications Protocol, which will ensure that the Student Assembly and the Annual Union Meeting's resolutions are communicated to the Student Body.

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**Proposed by: Juhani Mäntyranta**

**Seconded by: Martin Zaranyika**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Lobby the University to make available fines from disciplinary cases towards union campaigns**

**To: Union Meeting**

**From: Martin Zaranyika, SU President and James Ward, Vice President Community Welfare**

**Date: 28 November 2013**

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### **This Union Notes**

- 1.1 That the University will use fines as punishments for students who are found guilty of disciplinary offences
- 1.2 That there is no transparency surrounding the whereabouts of these fines for students who have been fined.
- 1.3 That at a recent hearing the UBS President convinced a panel to donate £500 to the Union's Drugs and Alcohol Awareness campaign.

### **This Union Believes**

- 2.1 That our campaigns can be more effective at educating students.
- 2.2 There should be more transparency over the destination of the fines that students pay as punishment.

### **This Union Resolves**

- 3.1 To run campaigns based on the offences that students have committed, and use the money from their fines to fund our activity.

### **This Union Mandates**

- 4.1 The student officers who sit on university disciplinary cases to take this matter to the chair of the Disciplinary Board, encouraging them to give us the funds for running campaigns where necessary.

**Proposed by: Martin Zaranyika**

**Seconded by: James Ward**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**



## MOTION

**Title: Opposition to the sale of student loans**

**To: Union Meeting**

**From: George Bowden**

**Date: 28 November 2013**

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This Union Notes:

- This week, the Government announced the sale of £890 million worth of historic student loans to a debt collection agency.
- Borrowing figures released this week show that there has been a jump in percentage of debt in the UK population – justified by the levels of student loan, and maintaining the UK as one of the most indebted per capita in the EU.
- We do not know the means in which the loans will be chased up, and could see people being chased and harassed by debt collection agencies.
- National Union of Students president Toni Pearce has described the move as "extremely concerning" and that it would see "the public subsidising a private company making a profit from public debt".
- The President is responsible for external relations of the Union.

This Union Believes:

- The Government's decision sets a dangerous precedent and paves the way for the Government to take similar action for loans taken out at a later date, including our own student loans.
- There is no guarantee that the terms and conditions of historic, current, and future student loans will not change.

This Union Resolves:

- To be opposed to retrospective changes to student loan terms and conditions, including the rate of interest.
- To be opposed to the sale of historic, current, and future student loans for profit.

This Union Mandates:

- The President to lobby the Universities Minister, David Willets MP, to express this Union's concern over the sale of historic student loans, and to make clear this Union's opposition to the sale of historic student loans and retrospective changes of loan terms and conditions.
  - The President to lead a petition to John Randall MP for Uxbridge and South Ruislip, and requests that he represents Brunel students by asking a question to the Minister about the changes in terms and conditions, interest rates, and to seek assurances that this will not happen.
  - The President to widen lobbying by publishing a template letter for students to use to write to their home constituency Members of Parliament.
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**Proposed by: George Bowden**

**Seconded by: Kerri Prince**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: First Aid Motion**

**To: Annual Union Meeting**

**From: Katie Stewart (Campaigns Chair)**

**Date: 28/11/2013**

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**The Union notes:**

1. Some members of the Union (such as Head Contacts) are required to have first aid training
2. There are currently no requirements for committee members for Clubs or Societies to be first aid trained
3. The activities that are undertaken by Clubs and Societies could lead to injury

**The Union Believes:**

1. Student's safety is a priority and first aid incidents can occur at any time, any place.
2. That as part of our purpose we should provide opportunities for our members to gain relevant and valuable skills, enabling them to enjoy a full and rounded university experience"....
3. The introduction of a requirement of student first aiders within each club and society will contribute to the Union's Personal Development Programme which aims to equip students with necessary skills for work and life.

**The Union Resolves:**

1. By the end of this academic year one committee member from at least 50% of clubs and 30% of societies will be first aid trained
2. To make it compulsory for at least one committee member for every club and society to be first aid trained at the start of the next academic year.

**The Union Mandates:**

- The President to ensure that the relevant departments deliver on this resolution" and reports back within the next impact report...
  - The President and Vice-President Student Activities to support the Campaigns Chair
- 

**Proposed by: Katie Stewart      Seconded by: Martin Zaranyika**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Lobby the University to increase the cycle rack provision outside the Bannerman Centre**

**To: Union Meeting**

**From: James Ward, Vice President Community Welfare**

**Date: 28 November 2013**

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### **This Union Notes**

That cycling has become a common activity for many students to commute to and from university

That there are not enough cycling parking facilities outside the Bannerman centre

That students currently “double park” their bikes on the racks outside of the Bannerman Centre because the current racks are overused

That the university security team are focusing on cycle theft as an issue, and have the aim of reducing the number of bikes that get stolen.

That students who live within two miles of the campus are not entitled to a parking permit and therefore have to find other means of getting to campus.

That the London Borough of Hillingdon are under pressure to improve the uptake of active travel, effectively cycling and walking.

### **This Union Believes**

That putting cycling facilities in common areas would benefit the student population and would encourage more cycling.

That students would feel confident and safer with racks in locations closer to where they spend the majority of their time on campus.

That the library has one of the highest footfalls on campus, meaning that the likelihood of bike theft from outside the Bannerman centre is reduced.

That students should not be discouraged from cycling to and from campus because they cannot leave their bike in a location where their bike would be safe.

That the passing of this motion would demonstrate the student voice on this issue

### **This Union Resolves**

To work hard to ensure that we have an increase in cycle racks outside the Bannerman centre

**This Union Mandates**

The Vice President Community Welfare to lobby the Environmental Strategy Group to increase the cycling parking provision on campus.

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**Proposed by: James Ward**

**Seconded by: Zein Owfar**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to Elect the Chair of Student Assembly in the Spring Elections and the Vice-Chair in the Autumn Elections period.**

**To: Union Meeting**

**From: Martin Zaranyika, (UBS President) and Robert Barnstone (Student Assembly Member)**

**Date: 28 November 2013**

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### **This Union Notes**

1.1 Currently as per Byelaw G Clause 5, the Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the first meeting of the Student Assembly.

1.2 Anyone can attend Student Assembly.

1.3 Student Assembly is the main body where student voices can be heard and student issues debated.

1.4 The turnout in the most recent elections was 12% in spring 2013 and 3% in autumn 2013, of the total Union of Brunel Students' membership.

1.5 At the most recent Student Assembly, a motion was passed to elect Standing Committee Members in term 3.

### **This Union Believes**

2.1 Currently, not many students are aware of Student Assembly.

2.2 Electing the Chair of Student Assembly in the spring election may increase democratic participation in the Union.

2.3 Electing the Chair in the spring would ensure they are fully trained prior to the first meeting of the Assembly and participate in the induction process for Union Assembly members.

### **This Union Resolves**

3.1 To amend Bye-Law G, Clause 5 to read "To elect the Chair of Student assembly in the spring elections and to elect the Vice-Chair in the autumn elections" This ensures level 1 students have the opportunity to hold such a prestigious position.

### **This Union Mandates**

4.1 The President to ensure Bye-Law G, Clause 5 is amended.

4.2 The President to ensure an induction programme for the Chair of Student Assembly is provided, in the period after examinations finish.

4.3 The President to explore how the role of chair can be developed in line with the governance review

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**Proposed by: Martin Zaranyika**

**Seconded by: Robert Barnstone**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

Title: Motion to Elect Delegates to NUS Conferences

To: Union Meeting

From: Kerri Prince, Student Assembly Community Member

Date: 28/11/2013

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This Union Notes

The Union of Brunel Students currently democratically elects representatives to attend the main National Union of Students (NUS) Conference.

That the National Union of Students also has various conferences throughout the year aimed at different groups of students.

That these conferences are: Women's Conference, Black Students' Conference, Postgraduate Students' Conference, Mature/Part-Time Students' Conference, International Students' Conference, and Disabled Students' Conference.

That other Student Unions such as Bath SU directly elect representatives to attend these conferences to represent them.

That the Union of Brunel Students has no democratic procedure in place to send members to these conferences.

That in previous years the Union of Brunel Students has had zero representation at some of these conferences.

This Union Believes

Democracy is a value that we at UBS consistently strive to adhere to in our actions.

By directly electing these representatives to these conferences, UBS will be fulfilling our democratic responsibilities and ensure that UBS is represented in every aspect of the National Union of Students.

All members of the Union of Brunel Students should have an equal opportunity to attend NUS conferences

This Union Resolves

To directly elect representatives for these conferences in the Autumn Elections alongside delegates to the main NUS Conference.

To empower and offer opportunity for students to attend these conferences to contribute towards their personal development.

This Union Mandates

The President to make sure that in all future Autumn elections, UBS will elect students from amongst Union members to attend these conferences.

The President to set out a strategy for appropriate promotion and procedure to deal with the issues of 'Self Definition' in attendance to these conferences.

That in the case of none or not enough students being elected to attend conferences, Student Assembly will co-opt union members to attend. In the instance of positions still not being filled, UBS are not required to send delegates in these positions.

**Proposed by: Kerri Prince**

**Seconded by: Robyn Fitzharris**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**



## MOTION

**Title: Zero Tolerance towards Sexual Harassment**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

**From: Abigail (Olive) Barton**

**Date: 27th November 2013**

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### **This Union Notes**

1. In the 2010 NUS Women's Campaign hidden marks report research showed that 68% of female students had experienced sexual harassment during their time at university and one in seven had experienced a serious physical or sexual offence whilst a student.
2. That despite common misconceptions both male and female students suffer from sexual harassment.
3. The zero tolerance campaign has been successfully used and implemented at other universities including; Kent, Goldsmiths, Cardiff, Sussex and Newcastle.

### **This Union Believes**

1. All students should feel safe, secure and comfortable on campus.
2. That a zero tolerance attitude towards sexual harassment will reflect the values the Union of Brunel Students aims to uphold, most notably; equality, empowerment and integrity.

### **This Union Resolves**

1. That a zero tolerance attitude towards sexual harassment should be enacted effective immediately on campus.
2. That both Union and University security and Union staff should be trained to deal with incidents of sexual harassment and be able to respond to complaints and concerns with diligence and respect as a result.
3. That an awareness campaign to show the students of Brunel the changes enacted would be necessary to confirm the new zero tolerance attitude

### **This Union Mandates**

1. The Vice-President Community Welfare and Equality and Diversity Chair to research and write a new zero tolerance policy. The new policy would reflect a zero tolerance attitude not just towards sexual harassment but to all forms of discrimination, violence and bullying.

2. The Vice-President Community Welfare and Equality and Diversity Chair to conduct a survey and get a better understanding of students opinions on problem areas and what they would expect from a zero tolerance Union. This survey would be repeated in a year to measure the campaigns success.
3. The Vice-President Community Welfare to lobby the university to support the campaign and to speak to the Director of Operations regarding the current Union security protocol.
4. To mandate the student officers to mention the campaign in their welcome talks and introduction speeches so to set a precedent of the Unions zero tolerance attitude to new students from their first week. Not just to sexual harassment but to bullying, violence and discrimination also.

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**Proposed by: Abigail Barton**  
**Signature:**

**Seconded by: Robyn Fitzharris**  
**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to amend Bye Law J .9, Section 9**

**To: Student Assembly**

**Meeting:**

**From: Cam Mckirdy**

**Date: 26/02/14**

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### **This Union Notes**

Currently we the bye law states that;

9. It is the responsibility of the Chairperson or President to call the Sports Club or Society's Annual General Meeting, where the officers of the Sports Club or Society shall be elected. The elections must be prominently advertised 5 working days in advance and members must be given the opportunity to nominate and second candidates in the elections. The club or society members may only participate in elections if they have been a member for four weeks prior to the date elections were advertised.

The sentence "The club or society members may only participate in elections if they have been a member for four weeks prior to the date elections were advertised."

This currently restricts students who may be on placement and are unable to get involved in the club or society due to their location and availability and therefore have not paid for membership but next year they may really want to get involved and be committee members.

### **This Union Believes**

That Bye Law J 9 should be amended so it does not restrict certain students who would not get the benefits of membership during the year in which students run for positions for the following year. But to avoid issues raised when this bye law was introduced the sentence should read

"All Union Members may nominate themselves for Clubs and Society Committee Positions However only Members of the Club or Society 4 weeks prior to elections being advertised may vote in the elections."

Also there is a slight change to the start of the paragraph where it reads

"It is the responsibility of the Chairperson or President to call the Sports Club or Society's Annual General Meeting, where the officers of the Sports Club or Society shall be elected. "

This should be changed to :

"It is the responsibility of the Chairperson or President to call the Sports Club or Society's Annual General Meeting, where the officers of the Sports Club or Society shall be nominated and given the opportunity to speak to the members."

Due to us changing the way we conduct elections as we now do it all online.

**This Union Resolves**

That Bye Law j section 9 must be amended to read

It is the responsibility of the Chairperson or President to call the Sports Club or Society's Annual General Meeting, where the officers of the Sports Club or Society shall be nominated and given the opportunity to speak to the members. The elections must be prominently advertised 5 working days in advance and members must be given the opportunity to nominate and second candidates in the elections. All Union Members may nominate themselves for Clubs and Society Committee Positions however only Members of the Club or Society 4 weeks prior to elections being advertised are eligible to vote in the elections.

**This Union Mandates**

That the bylaw is changed

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**Proposed by:** Cam Mckirdy

**Seconded by:** Matt Cahill

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: Motion to amend quoracy of Student Assembly meetings**

**To: Union Meeting**

**Meeting: 02**

**From: Alex Mitchell**

**Date: 21 May 2014**

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### **This Union Notes**

That in recent months, a number of Student Assembly meetings have been inquorate.

### **This Union Believes**

That by having a number of inquorate meetings, we are failing to fulfil a democratic duty that students elected people to.

Many student unions have a much lower quoracy for their meetings.

We have one of, if not the, highest quoracy figure of any student union in the UK.

A productive meeting can still take place in a meeting that contains 26 people.

### **This Union Resolves**

To amend bye-law G point 11 to read: ... "Student Assembly meetings shall be inquorate if, 15 minutes having passed since the published time for the beginning of the meeting, fewer than **fifty percent plus one** of the elected Assembly Members are present."

### **This Union Mandates**

The Student Officers to ensure the bye-laws are amended as above.

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**Proposed by: Alex Mitchell**

**Seconded by: Aaron Lowman**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: The Union of Brunel Students to support the *Bring Back Our Girls* campaign**

**To: Union Meeting**

**Meeting: 02**

**From: Jemima Khalli (UBS Volunteer Chair)**

**Date: 21 May 2014**

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### **This Union Notes**

1. The union notes the importance of education for all regardless of race, sex, gender etc. and notes that human trafficking is a serious issue that is taking place all over the world. Both issues are seen in the abduction of over 200 schoolgirls in northern Nigeria. The union notes that Brunel Students must be empowered and supported to engage students in international affairs and that terrorism is a global issue that must be addressed. The Strategic Plan regards that we as Brunel Students should be able to live and contribute to communities outside Brunel. This can stretch to the international community and this motions states that as a union we support the Bring Back Our Girls campaign.

### **This Union Believes**

2. The union believes in a fair opportunity for all and that students should be proactive and engage in activity they feel passionate about. The union believes that Brunel students must be properly supported and represented. Therefore we must use that core value when regarding other students. Every student, no matter where they are in the world, must be supported and represent.

### **This Union Resolves**

3. The union resolves to publically announce that we support the campaign to Bring Back Our Girls and will show our support as an organisation on social media and the union website.

### **This Union Mandates**

4. The four officers and both the standing committee chairs and working group chairs will openly support the campaign on social media. I will work with the campaign chair in the last few days of term to get students involved in openly supporting the campaign such as holding a card saying they do and creating a short film.

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**Proposed by: Jemima Khalli**

**Seconded by: Martin Zaranyika**

**Signature:**

**Signature:**

## MOTION

**Title: UBS Academic Societies**

**To: Union Meeting**

**Meeting: 02**

**From: Martin Zaranyika, President**

**Date: May 2014**

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### **This Union Notes**

- Those courses that have had academic societies have engaged students, improved satisfaction and offered career development opportunities.
- Academic societies such as the Law society and the Politics society have achieved outstanding results. The law society organised to hold moots within the Supreme Court. The close relationship between lecturers and students in politics has contributed to the course being one of the best in the country in terms of student satisfaction.
- NUS research 'Success in the Student Market' indicates that there is an increased demand for course-related societies.
- The governance review survey revealed that when thinking about their identity students are more likely to identify with their department before any other aspect of University life.

### **This Union Believes**

- In the power of independent and organised groupings of students who are equipped with the tools to challenge academics, change their educational experience, create networks and foster purpose driven debates amongst one another.
- In order to change the higher education landscapes students need to organise together to engage in the issues that matter on their course as well as the decision made by government.
- Academic societies give students an opportunity to improve the depth and breadth of their academic interest.
- Academic societies could help with campaigns (i.e. SLTAs and NSS) run by the Union and University.
- Academic societies could bolster the academic representative structure and help with retention efforts.

### **This Union Resolves**

- To ring-fence a proportion of the special projects funds to assisting, supporting and creating academic societies.

### **This Union Mandates**

- The President and the Vice-President Academic Representation elect to ensure this is factored into departments' plans for the upcoming academic year.
- The President and Vice-President Academic Representation elect to report back to student assembly by the first Student Assembly in the Academic year 2014/15.

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**Proposed by: Martin Zaranyika, President**

**Seconded by: Marcus Stein**

**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: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014**

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**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.

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**Proposed by: Will Armstrong**

**Signature:**



**Seconded by: Priya Pallan**

**Signature:**



Motion refreshed in May 2014, Martin Zaranyika, SU President Spoke for the Motion.

## 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**

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### **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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

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**Proposed by: Priya Pallan**

**Signature:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Priya Pallan', written over a light blue grid background.

**Seconded by: Sam Middlewood**

**Signature:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sam Middlewood', written over a light blue grid background.