



Union of Brunel Students
2018-2019 Policy & Motions

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MOTION

Title: Motion to create the post of European Union (EU) Students' Officer role

To: General Meeting

Meeting: 15/10/2018

From: Maria Valada, Vice President College of Health and Life Sciences

Date:

This Union Notes

- In the academic year 2016/17 Brunel University had 740 students from EU countries, 2,745 non-EU students, and 9640 students from the UK (Higher Education Student Statistics).
- On June 23 2016, a hotly contested debate on the UK's continued membership of the European Union culminated in a public vote in favour of the "leave" campaign. The full implications of the referendum remain uncertain.
- On March 29, May triggered Article 50, by signing a letter to the EU which formally starts the two-year negotiating window.
- On April 21 2017, the government announced that EU students applying to commence studies at UK universities in autumn 2018 will remain eligible for the same loans and grants as domestic students. On July 4 2018, the same was confirmed for EU students commencing their studies in autumn 2019.
- Residents of EU nations are usually able to study in other EU nations as 'home students'. Compared to the fees charged to international students, home fees are generally lower or non-existent.
- In the UK, international students tend to pay between £15,000–£25,000 per year for the same course. Given that most UK universities charge around £9,000 per year, home status will typically save an EU student £18,000–£48,000 over the course of a three year undergraduate degree.

This Union Believes

- The full implications of Brexit on EU students is still unclear, which means that we as a Union have to be in a position to react quickly to any outcomes.
- Currently, the most common visas for working in the UK, including Tier 2 (General), this visa requires applicants to have a job offer in place before applying for a visa. If this becomes the case for EU citizens, it could become more difficult for EU students to seek work in the UK.
- If EU students are charged the fees of an international student we may see a reduction in those students attending a UK University.
- Equally we may see more students facing Visa issues if EU students have the same visa requirements applied to them as international students.



- EU and International students experience differ in relation to their rights, benefits and issues. Therefore a new Officer should be put in place in order to make sure every group is properly supported and provided with necessary care and assistance.
- Continuing to keep both groups under one Officer could potentially be counter-productive for both the Union and the student groups as one person cannot possibly provide adequate care and support for two sides with different needs and problems.

This Union Resolves

- To break the International Students' Officer role into two separate roles: International Students' Officer and the European Union (EU) Students' Officer role. This will be implemented for the 2018/19 spring election cycle.
- The International Students' Officer role will be for non EU students
- The European Union (EU) Students' Officer role will have the same status, and sit on the same internal democratic Union committees as the International Students' Officer.
- Eligibility to stand: You must be classed as a European student (for the avoidance of doubt, the HEFCE definition of a European student shall be used and in this instance it shall be a student who is a European tuition fee band student) you must be studying on an accepted course at Brunel University London.
- To insert the following Job role into the constitution (Bye-law I):

European Union (EU) Students' Officer

1. The European Union (EU) Students' Officer shall have the following specific duties and responsibilities;
 - 1.1 To identify and communicate the experience of EU Students within the Membership.
 - 1.2 To implement campaigns and raise awareness of issues facing EU Students.
 - 1.3 To strive for equality for all EU, irrespective of age, gender, race, sexuality, disability, religious belief, or political belief.
 - 1.4 To encourage the participation of EU students in the Students' Union.
 - 1.5 Work with the relevant staff within the University as necessary to address the needs and concerns of EU Students.
 - 1.6 To be the Unions student lead on liaising with the University and other organisations offering services to EU Students, over matters affecting those students, including the National Union of Students.
 - 1.7 Formulate and Chair a forum for student input into EU student representation
 - 1.8 Organise and/or participate in the planning of cultural integration campaigns, along with the International Students' Officer

Proposed by: Maria Valada

Seconded by: Ranjeet Rathore



MOTION

Title: Motion to ban the promotion of essay mills and similar services.

To: AGM

Meeting: October 2018 AGM

From: Daniel Knights, Student

Date: 01/10/18

This Union Notes

That in the previous AGM the Union banned alcohol and gambling companies from advertising on campus via Union controlled channels.

This Union Believes

- That so-called essay mills promote dishonesty and academic cheating.
- That academic cheating is wrong both from a moral and legal perspective.

This Union Resolves

That so-called essay mills will be banned from advertising on campus via Union-controlled channels.

This Union Mandates

That the elected student officers led by the President Ranjeet Rathore ensure that the above motion is followed through within the time specified.

Proposed by: Daniel Knights

Seconded by: James Cantwell



ORIGINAL MOTION

Title: Ensure fairer funding between sports teams and societies.

To: AGM

Meeting: October 2018 AGM

From: Daniel Knights, Student

Date: 01/10/18

This Union Notes

That currently all sports teams are now free to join and that significantly more funding goes into sports teams compared to societies.

This Union Believes

- That sports **is important** and a good way to keep students activity and promote a healthy lifestyle.
- That societies are **chronically underfunded** and this prevents societies from being as active as they would like to be.
- That this significant funding gap between sports teams and societies cannot continue.

This Union Resolves

~~That in budget planning for next year the total funding pot (Union money any grants from the university etc. but not including money raised by teams/societies themselves) for sports teams **will not** be more than 3x the total funding pot for societies.~~

(AMENDED IN MEETING TO TEXT BELOW)

1. That in budget planning for next year the total funding pot societies is reviewed to ensure an increase in funding without reducing grants or funding given for any other student union led activity, campaign or role.
2. That the Executive lobby the University for an Increase in the block grant in order to support this increase in funding to societies.

This Union Mandates

That the elected student officers led by the President Ranjeet Rathore ensure that the above motion is followed through within the time specified.

Proposed by: Daniel Knights

Seconded by: James Cantwell



MOTION

Title: Motion to Support a second referendum and People's vote on the Final Deal

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 15th October 2018

From: Ranjeet Rathore, Students Union President

Date: Friday 05 October 2018

This Union Notes

- 1.1** On the 23rd of June 2016 a vote took place on whether the UK should leave or remain in the EU.
- 1.2** Leave campaign won by 51.9% to 48.1%. The turnout was 71.9% with over 30 million voting.
- 1.3** The UK is scheduled to leave on the 29th March 2019.
- 1.4** The possibility that the country is heading for a hard Brexit, or even no deal at all, has become an increasing likelihood.
- 1.5** 750,000 more 18-year-olds - who were too young to have their say in the EU referendum - were able to vote yesterday, finally getting their voices heard on Brexit.

This Union Believes

- 2.1** With rebellions to the left and on the right, the Government is quite clearly in chaos. What little faith we had in Brexit negotiations being able to deliver for students is eroded. We need a #PeoplesVote
- 2.2** Young people – to have a say on the final deal, but at least this time we will know what we are voting for. This is about ensuring an open and fair democracy
- 2.3** Our Vision of People's vote is about asking for an equal say with true information available.
- 2.4** Young people “cannot see how the government can deliver a Brexit deal that works for them”.
- 2.5** Attempting to influence the outcome of the negotiation process at a number of different levels” to “get the best from Brexit” for students.



This Union Resolves

- 3.1** To campaign for The People's Vote campaign for a second referendum seeking to an opinion against a "blind Brexit" under which the UK would leave the EU without certainty on the terms of a future trade deal.
- 3.2** To campaign to support people's vote for the public to have final say on the final Brexit deal. This is giving the Power to the People to take a decision that will affect our lives for generations to come.
- 3.3** To Campaign for objectives:
 - A.** To negotiate for special immigration status for EU and UK students and academics, to ensure that they remain able to move across the EU freely for work and study.
 - B.** To campaign for the UK to remain a full member of the Erasmus+ scheme and to secure a commitment from MPs that the UK will be a member of any similar schemes in the future.

Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Seconded by: Maria Valada (VPCHLS)



Motion to change Bye-laws

a) Motion to change Student Assembly and introduce electronic voting

Union Notes

1. In 2015 the Union introduced a Scrutiny Committee to hold the Officers accountable, and also changed the remit of student assembly to have 3 accountability specific meetings per year.
2. The Union struggles to reach quoracy for many of its meetings, with scrutiny Assembly meetings having particular issues.
3. All members are entitled to attend student assembly and participate, they are just not able to vote. Also the members are responsible for holding the Officers accountable
4. We have often had to run votes online amongst student assembly members where meetings have not reached quoracy and a decision is needed urgently. However; there is currently no bye-laws allowing for this.
5. The first meeting of the year is largely taken up by elections for the committees of Student Assembly.

Union Believes

1. By removing the requirement of accountability meetings to sit as part of Student Assembly, we will be able to encourage a larger participation from our membership. It will also allow us to avoid having accountability meetings that are not able to go ahead due to quoracy issues.
2. Officer will still be expected to submit reports to all Student Assemblies and can be challenged on these in the meetings.
3. By introducing the ability for online voting we will be able to move the voting in of subcommittee members out of the first meeting of the year. This would mean the meeting could focus on discussing issues that matter to its members.
4. Electronic voting systems will allow us to publish how members of student assembly vote, increasing the accountability of these members. Online voting will also allow us to be reactive when it comes to dealing with high priority issues in a timely manner.

Union Resolves

1. To amend Bye-law G as outlined below and insert the newly written Bye-law S as outlined below (Appendix A).

Proposer: Peri Sherif

Seconder: Ranjeet Rathore



Motion to change Bye-laws

Motion to Merge Democracy and Scrutiny Committee

Union Notes

6. In 2015 the Union introduced a Scrutiny Committee to hold the Officers accountable.
7. At the same time as Scrutiny Committee was introduced the Elections committee became the Democracy Committee and was changed with overseeing all the democracy not just elections.
8. The Union struggles to fill it's subcommittees of student assembly and have to hold more than one round of elections.
9. When spring elections come around we often have to say good bye to a number of members of the democracy committee as they are either running as a candidate or supporting a candidate.
10. Autumn elections do not have a democratically elected Democracy committee to oversee them, it is often made up of members from the executive.

Union Believes

5. The business discussed by both committees is often narrow, meaning that members can lose interest and feel their role is not a valuable one.
6. Democracy Committee has never discussed issues outside of that of the elections.
7. Those people that sit on both these committees are often duplicated, as those interested in the Unions democratic processes are also those interested in its accountability processes.
8. By restructuring the committees, we are allowing them to be more effective as the topic of discussion will be broader.
9. By restructuring these committees as suggested we can generate a democracy committee that members do not need to leave just because it is election season. Instead we will maintain these members throughout the academic year.
10. The new committee will have clear terms of office to ensure we have students overseeing the Autumn elections, thus removing the currently questionable practices of appointing members of the executive.

Union Resolves

2. To merge the functions of Democracy and Scrutiny committee as outlined in the attached Bye-laws (Appendix B)
3. This new committee shall be called the "Democracy Committee" and shall have a subcommittee called the "Elections and Referenda Committee".
4. To amend Bye-law B to replace "Democracy Committee" in clause 15 onwards with "Elections and Referenda Committee".

Proposer: Peri Sherif

Secunder: Ranjeet Rathore

Homophobia and Transphobia Hate Crime Motion

- 1) This Union notes:
 - a. LGBTQA+ people often face verbal and physical harassment regarding their sexual and/or gender identity.
 - b. For safeguarding issues, LGBTQA+ people may feel uncomfortable reporting these issues.
 - c. LGBTQA+ people face unique issues when dealing with hate crime that other groups do not, and this should be taken into account when handling cases.

- 2) This Union believes:
 - a. The processes in place for reporting and recording LGBTQA+ specific hate crime are unclear and unsatisfactory.
 - b. There has been a reluctance from the Union to accept that Brunel has an issue with homophobia and transphobia on campus.
 - c. That a zero-tolerance approach with clear disciplinary consequences for perpetrators must be clearly outlined and enforced.
 - d. The body in place for assessing hate crime must have their authority and jurisdiction made clear.

- 3) This Union resolves:
 - a. To establish a clear, transparent process for reporting and recording LGBTQA+ hate crimes featuring as little bureaucracy as possible.
 - b. To make clear the disciplinary process for offenders and how this will be enforced.
 - c. To give authority for this process to a single individual who can liaise between interested parties, and guide victims through the process.

- 4) This Union mandates:
 - a. To establish a specific LGBTQA+ hate crime reporting platform, with the option of reporting anonymously.
 - b. To reassess the consequences for perpetrators and enforcement procedures.
 - c. To publish clear and accessible documentation regarding who people should contact, the process in place for reporting, what happens after allegations have been made, and the consequences and enforcement policy.
 - d. To establish a consultation period in the form of anonymous student surveys to grasp a sense of the size of the issue of homophobia/transphobia on campus.



- e. **ADDITIONAL AMENDED MANDATE:** For the Union to provide appropriate awareness and diversity training to its staff and contractors.

Proposer: Finn Grice

Secunder: Cayla Martin



Motion to change Bye-laws

Motion to change how Student Trustees are recruited

To: Student Assembly

From: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Date: 21/11/2018

Union Notes

11. Student Trustees are currently recruited by a cross campus ballot, which normally runs as part of our main Officer elections.
12. Over the past 2 years we have had ineffective Student Trustees elected. Resulting in their removal due to lack of attendance and apologies.
13. Students have run for the role of Student Trustee on manifestoes that do not reflect the responsibilities of the role they are running for.
14. The Trustee Board have overall control of a charity and are responsible for making sure it's doing what it was set up to do.
15. Appointment committee which has the responsibility for overseeing the appointment of Independent trustees has previously lacked a clear definition and membership in the Bye-laws.

Union Believes

11. Changing the system by which we appoint Student Trustees will allow for Student Trustees to be appointed in line with the needs of the organisation. It will also allow us to ensure all candidates have a clear understanding of the role.
12. By clarifying the role of the appointments committee, we will resolve the existing confusion as to who is part of the committee and its role.

Union Resolves

5. To change the system of electing Student Trustees to a system that instead allows the Union to choose the candidates prior to the election. This selection process will sit with the appointments committee, which has membership from across the Union Democracy.
 6. To amend the Bye-laws in line with Appendix A (changes are indicated in Red)
 7. To remove the reference to Appointments committee that currently exists in Bye-law G, clause 30.
-

Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore

Seconded by: Peri Sherif



Motion B

Title: Motion to lobby the University to create Multi-faith praying space on campus

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: SA02

From: Ranjeet Rathore, President

Date: 19/11/2018

This Union Notes

1. Brunel University is a secular institution but recognises the commitment of individual staff and students to pursue a spiritual and religious practice and actively supports their right to do so in an atmosphere of tolerance and respect. The University supports the diversity and inclusivity of our staff and student population and acknowledges the need for suitable facilities to enable staff and students to pray/reflect/contemplate during the standard academic day.
2. Students who want to pray when studying, especially in the library are forced to pray between the aisles of the books. They are doing this because of the lack of facility provided to them.
3. Praying between the aisles causes blockage to other students. Some students have complained about being harassed when praying in library.
4. There is a chaplaincy on campus but "Brunel chaplaincy is about the people, not about the space". Praying in chaplaincy is limited as it shuts at 5:00PM. It can be used for longer hours but it needs to be booked via the chaplains and it can only be booked by societies not by individual students.

This Union Believes

1. It is unacceptable for our students who want to while they are at university to not have a space them to pray.
2. Students are forced to pray in places like the library, between book aisles. Where they encounter hostility trying to practise their faith.
3. That religious identity is at the heart of life for many of our students and Brunel union is committed to providing an inclusive learning and working environment where students of all religions, and none, can thrive and should thrive.
4. That everyone has the right to undertake their own specific religion and practise their religion while they are at university.
5. That creation of a multi-faith room within the university, would be a way of ensuring that students of all faiths are given a space to practise their religion.
6. Union should be actively campaigning for concerns which directly affects students.

This Union Resolves

1. It is appropriate that students and staff should have space on campus to be able to pray, contemplate and reflect away from the constant noise and interruptions of modern university life.
2. To lobby the university to provide with a space to create a multi faith prayer room facility in centre of campus with 24 hours access to it.
3. To make the university welcoming and accessible for the students who wants to pray while at the university.
4. The vision and aims for the space is as follows:
 - To keep access to multi-faith room as uncomplicated as possible. The shared nature will rely largely on the respect and generosity of users. The room should



be provided for prayer, meditation, reflection, contemplation and quietness. Along with this users should respect others in the room.

- The rooms are for the sole use of staff, students and occasional visitors to the University. They are not for the use of external individuals or organisations.
- The rooms are generally available on a drop-in basis and it may often be necessary to wait for the room to become free.
- There should be a central space within the university which should have 24 hours access to the students.
- There should be a general principles for use of the facility such as;
 - i) . Please observe the following guiding principles.
 - ii) . Leave the room tidy for the next user.
 - iii) . Take personal items of religious practice away with you.
 - iv) . Do not block others using the room for long periods.
 - v) . Keep noise to a minimum.
 - vi) . No eating or drinking.

This Union Mandates

The President to lobby to the University for creating a central space on campus for a multi – faith praying facility.

Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Seconded by: Sohaib Arshad (CCO)



MOTION C

Title: Representative electorates for officer positions

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 2

From: Sean Cullen, Disability Officer

Date: 22nd November 2018

This Union Notes

1. That Union Officers are representatives of the students listed under their officer remit, along with being representatives of the Union as a whole.
2. Current Liberation Officers are required to be from the liberation group they are representing.
3. Full Time College Officers can only be nominated if they are from the college they wish to represent.
4. This same requirement does not extend to all of the Officer roles. For example; you are not required to be an international student to run for International Students Officer.

This Union Believes

1. In order to maintain fair representation of the students of Brunel the elected Officers should be from the group of students they wish to be the officer for.
2. By ensuring nominations are only from the group the post is intending to represent, there will be better engagement and representation in that area.

This Union Resolves

1. That the union bye-laws be amended to ensure any officer position can only be filled by a student from that group.
2. As such the current posts should be amended to ensure that nominations are received only from students from that particular group:
 - i. Mature and Part-time Students Officer
 - ii. International Students Officer
 - iii. EU Students Officer
3. When creating new posts the Union should ensure that nominations will be representative of the group the post is representing.

Proposed by: Sean Cullen

Seconded by: Peri Sherif



Motions to change Bye-laws: A

Motion to remove the post of Community Campaigns Officer

To: Student Assembly

From: George Wardle

Date: 24/01/2019

Union Notes

1. The Post of Community Campaigns Officer was introduced in 2016.
2. At the time of the roles creation the Union had a department committed to liaising with the local community, and there was a joint "Town and Gown" Committee held on a regular basis to discuss issues in the local community.
3. The Community Campaigns role is to organise and plan campaigns to achieve positive change for the community. This role involves leading on matters relating to the community on and off campus as well as developing community based campaigns.

Union Believes

1. With the existence of Brunel Volunteers and their off campus volunteering there is a limited need for the role of Community Campaigns Officer.
2. As the Union has reduced its community based activities and no longer has a department dedicated to this area, there are significantly less initiatives for the role of Community Campaigns Officer to be involved with.
3. The role of President includes the following: *"Be the officer lead on the representation of students in the local community. Including liaising with campus security, local police and the community", "Lead on all the Union's community engagement campaigns" and "Look to develop and enhance the profile of the Brunel Student Community both internally and within the wider community"*. As such we believe the role of community campaigns is already covered under the role of the President.
4. In addition to the Presidents responsibility's the role of Vice President Student Activities leads on any co-curricular activity. As a result we feel that the role of the Community Campaigns Officer is already covered under at least 2 of the full-time officer positions.
5. As such the Union believes that the role of Community Campaigns Officer is no longer of value to the organisation, as all community based activities sit within the roles of other Officers, or they are activities run by the University.

Union Resolves

1. To remove the exiting post of Community Campaigns Officer following the end of the current term of office.
2. To not elect a new Community Campaigns Officer in the upcoming spring elections.

Proposed by: George Wardle

Seconded by: Peri Sherif



Motions to change Bye-laws: B

Motion to limit proxy voting

To: Student Assembly

From: Ranjeet Rathore

Date: 24/01/2019

Union Notes

1. Proxy voting was introduced a year ago following the Unions move to become an incorporated charity.
2. Proxy voting allows members to vote on behalf of other Union members in our General Meetings. Thus ensuring members are able to have their voices heard even if they are unable to make the meeting.
3. Currently there is no limit as to how many proxy votes a member can hold.
4. Proxy votes count towards the quoracy of a meeting, which in the case of a general meeting is 100 members.
5. In the last General Meeting the Union held both the president and Vice President Student Activities held enough proxy votes individually to exceed quoracy.

Union Believes

1. Holding enough proxy votes to exceed quoracy allows one person to control the outcome of any motions discussed at a General Meeting. As a Union we do not believe this is in line with our value of integrity.
2. Proxy votes are valuable as they allow for members to still have a voice when they cannot attend the meeting in person.
3. Without a limit proxy votes can be used to interrupt the ability for the union to be democratic.

Union Resolves

1. To limit the number of proxy votes per person to 10.
-

Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore

Seconded by: Sean Cullen



Motions to change Bye-laws: C

Amendment to 'Motion to limit proxy voting'

To: Student Assembly

From: Sean Cullen

Date: 29/01/2019

Amendment to change union resolves from:

1. To limit the number of proxy votes per person to 10.

To:

1. To limit the number of proxy votes per person to 20.
 - a. A maximum 10 of which can be discretionary votes
 - b. A maximum 10 of which are predetermined by the voter, stating the item to be voted on as well as their decision.
-

Proposed by: Sean Cullen

Seconded by: Maria Valada



Motions to change Bye-laws: E

Motion to remove the post of Mature and Part-Time Students Officer

To: Student Assembly

From: George Wardle

Date: 24/01/2019

Union Notes

1. The Post of Mature and Part-time students Officer was introduced in 2016 in order to ensure this group had representation in the Union.
2. 41% of our members are over the age of 21 and 18% are over the age of 26.
3. Part-time students make up around 4% of our members.
4. The Mature and Part-Time Students Officer sits on the Executive Committee as well as Student Assembly. This requires at least 6 hours of their time a month on top of the campaigning work they are doing.

Union Believes

1. Mature and part-time students are more likely to have responsibilities outside of University, this can impact their ability to take on a demanding role such as that of an Executive committee member.
2. Previous post holders have struggled to commit the time needed to the role
3. Mature and Part-time students require adequate representation. Any post representing these students' needs to take into account additional demands on a mature and part-time student's time.
4. These students can be adequately represented by having a seat on Student Assembly, without the need for an executive post.
5. Student assembly members have less demands on their time than Executive Committee members.

Union Resolves

1. To remove the exiting post for Mature and Part-Time Students Officer.
2. To create a two new posts on student assembly representing Mature and Part-time Students. These posts will also work to ensure parents and carers are represented within the Union.
3. These new posts will actively work with all relevant societies, such as the Mature Students Society. They will also liaise with the relevant University departments to ensure effective representation of their students.

Proposed by: George Wardle

Seconded by: Sean Cullen



Motions: A

Motion to support the Post Study Work Visa Now campaign

To: Student Assembly

From: Om Sai Jaman Jyothi

Date: 24/01/2019

Union notes:

1. There are 442,375 international students in the UK, including 312,660 non-EU international students.
2. The post-study work visa scheme was an idea initially born and championed in Scotland, under the name 'Fresh Talent Scheme' in 2005. It was soon integrated into a UK wide system from 2008.
3. International students pay staggering amounts of money in tuition fees, visa costs, and NHS bills – they are being treated like cash cows.
4. The international student community contributes £20.3 billion to the UK economy annually - never mind the cultural diversity, global outlook, and internationally relevant skills they bring to the UK.
5. The current hostile environment policy makes international students feel unwelcome in the UK, and 19% of non-EU students would not recommend the UK as a place to study for a friend or relative (this is as high as 34%, 36% and 38% for students from India, Nigeria, and Pakistan respectively).
6. The number of non-EU international students finding employment after graduation has fallen by seven and a half times since the UK scrapped post-study work visas in 2012.
7. Over the years, and beyond its abolishment in 2012, the Scottish Government has continuously supported post-study work visa schemes and highlighted the need for a specific post-study work pathway for international students in Scotland.
8. During International Student Day 2018, PostStudyWorkVisaNow launched in Scotland at the University of Edinburgh with various politicians and students; including former EUSA President Briana Pegado who campaigned for this during her sabbatical term in 2015.
9. Fighting to bring back the post study work visa is active NUS Scotland policy, having been passed by the SEC in August 2018.



Union believes:

1. Most of these students are being forced to go home unjustly despite having built their lives in their city of study, and despite making the UK culturally, socially, intellectually and financially stronger. It is a disgrace that international graduates are being deported or otherwise forced to leave.
2. International students are fed up with the long wait and empty promises that have constituted the conversation about re-establishing the post-study work visa in the UK – this should be a tangible campaign outcome, not a buzzword or unfulfilled manifesto pledge.
3. PostStudyWorkVisaNow will work with students at Brunel and across the UK, including in England, Northern Ireland and Wales – to bring a united campaign to Westminster so international students can stay in the UK after graduation.

Union resolves:

1. To endorse the PostStudyWorkVisaNow campaign and working with them.
2. To use Union venues to host meetings and events.
3. To support PostStudyWorkVisaNow by signing and campaigning for their petition, which demands:
 - a) Government to reintroduce a post-study work visa that allows graduates to work in the UK for at least two years after graduation.
 - b) A lower, regional salary threshold.
 - c) No restrictions – a post-study work visa should be offered to anyone who graduates from an FE or HE programme that lasts for 11+ months in the UK.
 - d) Healthy ecosystem – the government must support FE and HE institutions in offering opportunities to enhance employability, build capacity and engage with the job market while in education.
 - e) FE & HE institutions to include employability and local as well as overseas job opportunities in their internationalization strategy.
 - f) Students to be removed from the net migration target.

Proposed by: Om Sai Jaman Jyothi

Seconded by: Ranjeet Rathore



Motions: A

Motion to create representation for Clubs and Societies on Student Assembly

To: General Meeting, February 2019

From: George Wardle, Vice President Student Activities

Date: 05/02/2019

Union Believes

1. Currently Societies and Clubs are represented Student Assembly through the post of Vice President Student Activities
2. In previous years the Societies Guild and Sports Federation Committees had a separate chair who had a seat on Student Assembly. These were removed during a review of our Part-time Officers.
3. Decisions made in Student Assembly effect the whole Union.

Union Further Believes

1. That changing the chair to be the Vice President Student Activities was needed in order to support members of the Sports Federation and Societies Guild Committee. However; the unintended consequence of reducing their voice in Student Assembly needs to be remedied.
2. Decisions made at Student Assembly can have a significant impact on Sports Federation and Societies Guild Committee, as such they should have a seat at the table and a vote.

Union Resolves

1. For 2 members of the Sports Federation Committee to have a seat on Student Assembly. This individual will be chosen by the Sports Federation committee.
 2. For 2 members of the Societies Guild Committee to have a seat on Student Assembly. This individual will be chosen by the Societies Guild Committee.
 3. To update the bye-laws to add these voting members to Student Assembly, and for these posts to be filled in the next student assembly election cycle.
-

Proposer: George Wardle

Secoder: Ranjeet Rathore



Motion

Title: Motion to provide drug testing kits

To: General Meeting, February 2019

From: Cayla Alice

Date: 05/02/2019

This Union Notes:

1. Brunel University is home to a large, multi-cultural group of students from all backgrounds
2. Full Time Officers, Part Time Officers and Student Assembly representatives are all elected representatives of the Union of Brunel Students (UBS), and represent both the student body, and UBS
3. Current UBS provided training is only for the Full Time and Part Time Officers, and not for Student Assembly members

This Union Believes:

1. That diversity and equality training will help UBS elected representatives better understand the diverse student population at Brunel University
2. Better understanding of all students and student groups at Brunel will enable our elected representatives to better represent all students, from all different backgrounds
3. All students deserve to have their issues represented by their elected representatives, and diversity and equality training will help improve this representation
4. Student Assembly representatives are the main voting body of UBS, and hold the Officer team to account. As such it is important for not only the Officer team but also Student Assembly reps to have diversity and equality training so they can better represent all students, and hold the Officers to account

This Union Resolves:

1. To introduce diversity and equality training for all elected representatives of UBS
2. For this training to reflect the diverse and multi-cultural student body at Brunel; including all liberation groups at Brunel University

This Union Mandates/Aims:

1. The Full Time Officer team, in collaboration with the Liberation Officers, to organise diversity and equality training going forward for all elected representatives of UBS
 2. For this to be implemented by the start of the 2018/19 Officer term
-

Proposer: Cayla Alice

Secoder: Finn Grice – LGBT Officer



MOTION

Title: Motion to tackle food diversity and price in Brunel

To: Annual General Meeting, February 2019

From: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Date: 04/02/2019

This Union Notes

1. The contract that Chartwells catering has signed with Brunel has given the outsourced catering company a monopolistic stranglehold over all events held on the University. It has also given them the unprecedented power to increase the price of the event just for their profit margins.
2. Union Societies and clubs have been told not to distribute any promotional food items (not even sweets and biscuits) to attract members, although this is a traditional society activity.
3. Students have expressed dissatisfaction with the Chartwells service as follows:
 - 3.1. Meals are poor value in terms of price and portion size.
 - 3.2. The food options are very limited on campus. There are selections available such as burgers, chips, pizza and the same old standard options.
 - 3.3. We pride ourselves for being one of the most diverse universities in the UK with a student's population from over 130 countries but when you look at the food option it is not at all diverse.

This Union Believes

1. The outsourced catering company Chartwells should not have the power to stop societies from sharing their food and culture with fellow students.
2. The outsourced catering company Chartwells should not be allowed to have a monopolistic stranglehold over all food served at university events.
3. The type of Chartwells food served throughout campus are not reflective of the demographics of the Brunel student population, which means students can't relate to and afford the food provided. Chartwells should offer alternative lower-cost meals and drinks to reflect this. Along with most importantly increasing the number of diverse food options on campus.
4. If Chartwells does not have the ability to cater to the Unions or student events, they should allow us to outsource the catering to another company. They should not have the power to limit the amount of non-Chartwells catered events that the Union is allowed to hold per year.
5. We have a duty towards our membership of giving them a fair chance to take pride in their country and culture and express themselves freely. If it is through food, they should not limit it but promote it.

This Union Resolves

1. Lobby Chartwells to lowering their prices on drinks and food provided to students, and provide cheaper alternative meals to the meals currently being provided.



2. To campaign for Chartwells to review their prices
3. To campaign for Chartwells to review their menus and make it more vibrant and multi-cuisines.
4. To look into food that is in demand from students so that they are better options than burgers, chips and pizzas on campus. Also, we are at the same time catering to a whole variety of students which always felt the disconnect.

Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore

Seconded by: Maria Valada



MOTION

Title: Motion to improve the Circuit Laundry provisions on campus

To: Annual General Meeting, February 2019

From: Ranjeet Rathore, President

Date: 04/02/2019

This Union Notes

1. The Laundry cost on campus has been increasing drastically. The current costs at least £4.60 (**£3.30 for a wash and £1.30 for dryer, excluding the cost of washing liquid**).
2. The cost of living at Brunel is already considerable, therefore, high laundry charges put an additional financial burden on students who are already struggling to cope financially.
3. The laundry charges are in expensive and not good value for money, especially as the University appear to be unable to directly set the price, it is done via third party provider that is circuit laundry.
4. It is estimated that the average student living in halls does around 14 washes a year, **costing £65-£100**, so this new initiative will let our students be cleaner for less.
5. The current state of the laundry machines in our university is very poor and below the standards. Machines are not serviced on time, they do not function appropriately.
6. The cards and application for circuit laundry does not work.
7. The application has been notoriously known for keeping (stealing) money from students, without any notification or even using it for the desired purpose.
8. The coin slots in laundry machines does not function appropriately. They are known for swallowing coins and not even doing the washing.
9. The washing machines does not wash clothes suitably and leave the detergent stains on them or sometime even just spins the clothes but does not washes them.
10. The tumble dryers are even worse, they do not dry the clothes in the first time of their use. Students has to use it multiple times to dry their clothes without any guarantee that it is going to be done rightly this time. Which is another £1.30 for every time you do it.
11. Living cost is already sky rocketing in London and what we do not want is another factor trying to add cost to one of the most important element of modern day life which is "**not even a luxury but it is laundry**".

The Union Believes

1. In the modern era of 2019, we should not be fighting for our basic amenity needs from the university. We are paying rent and paying for the laundry as well. Not that they are doing us a favour. But now, enough is enough!
2. By putting these options in place we are securing a clean and hygienic laundry for our students and try and resolve the existing issues which is students every single day of their university time here at Brunel.



This Union Resolves

1. Ideally students should have free laundry, however that would mean a new laundry system which would be a large investment. It is disgusting how much students are paying for such a poor system, Circuit laundry need to either make it ALOT cheaper or Brunel differentiates and gets a new, free system.
2. We will Lobby on the following options:
 - **Option 1:** Union to lobby the university to not allow any further contract extension with Circuit Laundry.
 - **Option 2:** Lobby the university to change the system of paying for laundry, students living in University owned halls should be given “**20 free laundry credits**”, valid for 1 year.
 - **Option 3:** Union to actively boycott circuit laundry on campus and promote external laundrette services.

Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore

Seconded by: George Wardle



Motion to change Bye-Laws

Title: Motion to Change the name of the Sports Federation Committee

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: March 14 2019

From: George Wardle

Date: 7 March 2019

Union Notes

4. The democratic body that over sees club/sport based activities in the Union is currently called "Sports Federation Committee"
5. In 2017 the sporting activity of the Union was rebranded as "Team Brunel"

Union Believes

6. Following the vast changes that have been made over the years within student activities and the rebranding that has taken place in relation to sports clubs, the name Sports Federation Committee is no longer reflective of the brand it is part of.
7. As a result we believe that "Sports Federation Committee" should be renamed to "Team Brunel Committee".

Union Resolves

2. To change all references in the Bye-laws to "Sports Federation Committee" to be "Team Brunel Committee"
3. For the Union to move to using this new name for the Committee with immediate effect.

Proposer: George Wardle

Secunder: Maria Valada



Motion to change Bye-Laws

Title: Motion to change Bye-laws to improve accountability

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 2nd May

From: Peri Sherif, VP CEDPS

Date: 12/04/2019

Union Notes

1. No members of Student Assembly have attended the Union accountability sessions
2. Some Members of the Executive and Student Assembly have failed to send adequate apologies to a number of meetings they are required to attend as part of their role.
3. There is a lack of accountability for both Executive Officers and Student Assembly members.
4. Attending democratic meetings linked to your role as an elected representative is a requirement.

Union Believes

1. There needs to be adequate representation of the student body in our decision making meetings. When members fail to fulfil their role this has a negative effect of our ability to ensure our members are represented.
2. Student assembly members have a responsibility to hold the Executive Officers accountable, as such attendance at the Accountability meetings should be a requirement of the role.
3. Executive Committee members are required to attend a number of meetings in their role as an Officer. Failure to send apologies to any of these meetings on 3 occasions should result in them being considered to have resigned.
4. Bye-elections can be run as and when needed throughout the year to ensure, that in the event of a resignation, we can quickly fill any gap in representation.
5. All apologies to Student Assembly meetings must be accepted by the members present.

Union Resolves

1. To update the following: *Bye-law G: Student Assembly, Clause 9; If a non-jury member fails to submit unapproved apologies for an absence three times in a year then that member is considered to have resigned from Student Assembly.*

To

Bye-law G: Student Assembly, Clause 9; if a member fails to submit approved apologies for an absence three times in a year to any meetings linked to their role as a student assembly representative, then that member is considered to have resigned from their role.

9.1 Apologies must be approved by a vote at the beginning of each Student Assembly. All apologies must be received at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

9.1.1 Apologies may be received later in exceptional circumstances, and it is the responsibility of the chair to decide if the apology will be put forward to the meeting



for approval.

2. To update the following: *Bye-Law I: Executive Committee, Clause 3.3; If a member fails to submit apologies for an absence three times in a year then that member is considered to have resigned from their role Executive Committee.*

To

Bye-Law I: Executive Committee, Clause 3.3; if a member fails to submit apologies for an absence three times in a year to any meetings linked to their role as an Executive Committee Member, then that member is considered to have resigned from their role as an Officer.

3. To update Bye-law S: Accountability Open Forum, update membership to include: *Clause 4; Student Assembly members are required to attend this meeting as part of their role.*
4. These rule changes will apply to all the incoming representatives for the 2019/2020 academic and all future elected representatives.
5. For clarity; “meetings” in the new statements above refers to the Democratic meetings of the Union as outlined in the constitution and Bye-laws. For example; Student Assembly, General Meetings, Executive committee, appointments committee, democracy committee, etc...

Proposer: Peri Sherif, VP CEDPS

Seconded: Finn Grice, LGBT Officer



Motions

Title: Motion to lobby the University to provide child friendly spaces on campus

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: March 14 2019

From: Una Brown, President of the Mature Student and Carers Society

Date: 4 March 2019

This Union Notes

1. It has been noted in previous meetings that there is lack of provision on Campus for children of students and staff, this was evidenced by the fact there were no changing facilities available and the union actioned the request of a student to petition the university to remedy this situation.
2. Further, during school holidays and other times of high stress, parents need occasionally to come to Campus and bring their children with them. Currently there are no child friendly places where students can study, access to the library or have a meeting with tutors or peers with children present.
3. Mature students, parents and carers make up a significant proportion of the student faculty at Brunel and more needs to be done to ensure this population feel welcome, know their needs are understood and that provision is made to alleviate the difficulties faced in accessing higher education.
4. Providing a child friendly space where children can enjoy campus safely with their parents will help alleviate the challenges parents face, particularly around deadlines and busy times.

This Union Believes

1. More should be done to help parents and carers manage their dual responsibilities while studying at Brunel.
2. There is lack of provision and accommodations made to meet the needs of this group of students and facilitate their continued participation.
3. Providing a room where parents can study and collaborate with other students with their children is a simple means of providing support for parents who are studying.
4. Ensuring parents and children of students have a positive experience of their time at Brunel furthers the agenda of increasing access to under-represented groups in higher education.

This Union Resolves

1. To work with the Mature Students and Carers Society to lobby the university for this provision.
2. To provide a workable proposal to the next Student Assembly meeting to be actioned before the new academic year – September 2019
3. To identify a room in a central, accessible and convenient location, near the library.



4. To propose that on one afternoon/ evening per week Student Ambassadors facilitate stories or games to enrich the experience for families.
5. Note that this is not a space for parents to leave children unattended.

This Union Mandates

1. Student Union to identify and make available a suitable space to be allocated.
 2. The Committee of the Mature Students and Carers Society to lobby University for the space and provide suitable resources.
 3. Student Union and Mature Student and Carers Society to provide further details to next meeting with a view to mandating the actions required.
-

Proposed by: Una Brown

Seconded by: James Farmer



Motions

Title: Motion to provide suitable activities in Freshers week for Mature Students and Families

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: March 14 2019

From: Una Brown, President of the Mature Student and Carers Society

Date: 4 March 2019

This Union Notes

1. It has been noted in previous meetings that there is lack of provision on Campus for mature students and those with families. This is particularly true during Freshers week where the focus of attention is on young students and the activities they might prefer.
2. Many mature students, and those with caring responsibilities begin their academic career feeling isolated and find engagement in extracurricular activities difficult for a multitude of reasons. If we provide good quality, high profile events and drop-in venues during Freshers week, Headstart week and perhaps week 1 of the new term, this issue may be alleviated and give a basis of friendship and support from the beginning of their time at Brunel. This opportunity will have a significant impact on their engagement, enjoyment, success and wellbeing throughout their time studying.
3. Mature students, parents and carers make up a significant proportion of the student faculty at Brunel and more needs to be done to ensure this population feel welcome, know their needs are understood and that provision is made to alleviate the difficulties faced in accessing higher education.

This Union Believes

1. More should be done to help parents and carers settle in well to Brunel without feeling isolated.
2. There is lack of provision and accommodations made to meet the needs of this group of students.
3. Providing additional events during Freshers, Headstart week and the beginning of term will help mature students and carers more successfully integrate into student life.
4. Providing better support for this student population will significantly enhance their success and wellbeing at Brunel.
5. Personnel and finance should be allocated to this endeavour from the Freshers week budget.
6. The Student Union Officers should work closely with the mature student and carers' society and the Widening Participation Team to ensure a successful events calendar is provided during Freshers week and beyond.



7. Ensuring parents and children of students have a positive experience of their time at Brunel furthers the agenda of increasing access to under-represented groups in higher education.

This Union Resolves

1. To work with the Mature Students and Carers Society and the Widening Participation Team to provide an appropriate, effective and meaningful timetable for mature student and families during Freshers Week and other key times t the beginning of term.
2. To speak to mature students and parents in order to identify the most beneficial activities and timings of events.
3. To explore successful activities and ideas used at other universities and identify impact of this provision.
4. To provide proposals to the next Student Assembly meeting to be actioned before the new academic year – September 2019.

This Union Mandates

4. Student Union mandate to include events for mature students and families in the Freshers Week Programme.
5. The Freshers Week officers to work with the Committee of the Mature Students and Carers Society and Widening Participation Team to design an appropriate programme.
6. To allocate a budget to facilitate the programme.
7. Student Union and Mature Student and Carers Society to provide further details to next meeting with a view to mandating the actions required.

Proposed by: Una Brown

Seconded by: James Farmer



Motions

Title: Motion to support the implementation of mandatory USV React Training for all University Staff

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 2nd May

From: Sophie Charlotte

Date: 21st April

This Union Notes

- 1) Sexual violence is a reality on university campuses. Its prevalence is demonstrated in a recent collaborative report from Revolt and The Student Room. The research found that 62% of students and graduates have experienced sexual violence - as per the definition used by Rape Crisis. This includes groping, harassment, unwanted touching, coercion, sexual assault and rape. A shocking 8% of female respondents said that they had been raped. Only 6% of respondents reported their experiences to their university; only 2% felt both able to report and satisfied with the reporting process. Sexual assault can have a severe impact on an individual's physical and mental health.
- 2) From 2016 to 2018, Brunel led 'Universities Supporting Victims of Sexual Violence' with 7 partner Universities across Europe. It was a research project aimed to develop innovative training tools that would help universities address sexual violence on campus, to both prevent sexual violence and respond appropriately when it occurs. The training is to adequately equip university staff to respond appropriately to disclosures of sexual assault, enhance care for victims and to encourage a positive cultural shift around how sexual violence is viewed – especially to avoid victim-blaming or discrimination. A specific programme was developed for Brunel staff.
- 3) Currently, this training is mandatory only for staff working within university bars, security and halls.

This Union Believes

- 1) The staggering prevalence of sexual violence on campuses warrants greater attention and resources. No young person entering higher education should have to fear or experience these things. Brunel has a safeguarding responsibility to all students and must take all necessary steps to both prevent sexual violence and respond sufficiently to any student who makes a disclosure of abuse.
- 2) The fact that this exceptional training, led by Brunel, is not mandatory for all University Staff is unacceptable. It is fair to say that students are more likely to disclose this personal information to someone that they have an established relationship with, and this may be a personal tutor or member of academic staff. Right now, this is not mandatory for them. The lack of training is resulting in ill-



informed responses and secondary victimisation. Vulnerable students are being let down by Brunel and need our support. Brunel cannot claim to be an institution that cares about victims of sexual violence until each member of staff can adequately respond to disclosures of it.

This Union Resolves

- 1) To lobby the University to implement USV React training as mandatory for all University Staff, especially all tutors, lecturers and Division/Department leads.
- 2) To be zero-tolerance against sexual violence on campus at Brunel and commit to substantial campaigning in the 2019/20 academic year, encompassing SV myth-busting, affirmative consent and anti-victim blaming.
- 3) To ensure all members of Union Staff and Student Officers undertake the USV React training, with implementation starting with immediate effect for the 2019/2020 academic year.

Proposed by: Sophie Charlotte

Seconded by: Peri Sherif