



Union of Brunel Students
2019-2020 Policy & Motions

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Title: Motion to remove the Jury system

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 01

From: Sam Johnson

Date: 31/10/2019

This Union Notes

1. The Jury System was introduced in 2016 to increase student views on student assembly. The system originally worked through us inviting 100 randomly selected students to Student Assembly, of this the first 30 to respond would be invited to come along as voting members for 1 meeting.
2. We later increased the initial invite to 300 randomly selected students, as we did not receive a high response rate from the initial 100.
3. All Jury members would receive on the day training prior to the meeting.
4. Out of the 300 invites Responses can vary between 1 and 25. Of these less than 50% usually attend the meeting.
5. Student Assembly is made up of 15 community members, 12 Executive committee members, 14 department members, 1 LBIC member, 2 Mature and Part-time, 2 Societies guild reps and 2 team Brunel representative. Making 48 representatives.
6. Since the introduction of the Jury system Student Assembly has increased in size with societies, sports and mature student representation being added.
7. Students are entitled to attend Student Assembly and participate even if they are not elected, they are just unable to vote.

This Union Believes

1. With 48 members from a diverse range of groups, Student Assembly is already representative of the student body.
2. Community members are already in place to represent the general views of the student population.
3. Often Jury members still do not participate in meeting when they do turn up, as they do not have the time to understand the dynamics of the meeting. Meaning they do not add value to Student Assembly.
4. Student assembly would also become hugely unwieldy as a meeting if all members turned up along with a full jury of 30 people. Membership would reach nearly that required for an AGM at 78 members. Meaning meeting would take more resource to run and would need to run for longer to ensure all business was discussed.
5. The resource used to recruit jurors could be better used to promote assembly meetings to the wider student body.

This Union Resolves

1. To remove the Jury system from Student Assembly, and to instead focus on encouraging the general student population to attend meetings.
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Proposer: Sam Johnson (VPCHLS)

Secunder: Peri Sherif (VPCEDEPS)

Title: Officer Instant Report Accountability

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 31/10/2019

From: Sean Cullen, Disability Officer

Date: 22/10/2019

This Union Notes

1. Officers submit progress reports to both Student Assembly and the executive committee as part of their role.
2. These reports are mandatory with clear deadlines and templates.
3. Lack of report submission causes disruption within meetings.
4. Without officer reports the democracy committee cannot effectively hold officers accountable.

This Union Believes

1. Accountability is core to the unions operations, without such students lose control of their representation.
2. Reports are part of the officer role and should be prioritized as a formal submission.
3. Current reviews take time to process, leading to delayed action against an officer.
4. With the time between student assembly meetings the current rules are not effective.

This Union Resolves

1. The following rules/procedure be put in place to be actioned during the student assembly should a report be not submitted before the close of business on the advertised deadline:
 - a. The chair will challenge the officer, in the meeting, as to the reason for non-submission.
 - b. The Officer will then have 1 minute to address the room as to the reason
 - i. Should the officer not be present a message can be sent to the chair in advance of the meeting start time.
 - c. The room will then vote to accept/deny the officers reasoning as acceptable.
 - d. Following a vote against the officer's explanation, a second vote for censure will be automatically triggered and will be voted on straight away.
 - e. The outcome of this voting and the lack of report submission will then be publicized to the union's members to keep them informed.
 2. To amend any bylaws effected by this motion.
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Proposed by: Sean Cullen

Seconded by: Laura Albone

Title: Motion to set up a Lennon wall in Brunel campus

To: Student Assembly

From: Chan Long Him

Date: 31 October 2019

This Union Notes

1. A Lennon Wall symbolizes freedom of speech and non-violent resistance. There are now Lennon Walls everywhere in Hong Kong, as Hong Kong is now facing serious political problems and there is ongoing Police violence against peaceful protesters. In addition to police violence, police are also actively stopping lifesaving services from reaching protestors. Therefore Hong Kong people use the Lennon Wall to support each other and give out the information of the police violence.
2. The situation in Hong Kong is so serious and every day the news is shocking and heart-breaking, since there are a large number of Hong Kong students in Brunel (over 150 people) and these days are really hard times for them. Moreover, based on the comment of Hong Kong students, students in Brunel are so interested in things happening in Hong Kong and a large group of them want to give a support and cheer to the Hong Kong people, no matter which side just hope them safe.
3. The Lennon Wall will allow people to write some supporting words on memo paper and stick them on the Wall. The wall can also display updates and news about Hong Kong
4. The set-up of Lennon walls in universities or high schools is already a common action in a lot of western countries like UK, USA and Australia. World famous universities like The University of Manchester, The University of Sydney and University of Queensland have all already set up Lennon Walls in their campus to let students to know more about this thing and to show support and care

This Union Believes

1. The set-up of Lennon wall will give a place for students to find out about what is happening in Hong Kong and give them a way to show support and cheer, as the situation is so complicated in Hong Kong, students may not understand everything from a simple news report.
2. It is mentioned that it is a hard time for our large group of students in Brunel, the set up will give out a message that although they are now at Brunel and their home country is facing serious situation, everyone in Brunel is beside them and supporting them. It is because all they need is other's care, as their friends and family are in danger and they can do nothing.
3. The Lennon wall symbolises freedom of speech and non-violent resistance. Promoting these two message is another kind of education for every student, separate to that of their academic pursuits.

This Union Resolves

1. The Union will provide a place (e.g. "a wall outside lecture centre or provide a board inside lecture centre"), and invite Hong Kong students to post news of Hong Kong on it and set up some rules around the content people can write on the memo paper.
 2. The rules for the Lennon wall must include not being able to post negative messages or personal attacks. Such messages should be removed as they are not in keeping with the ethos of the wall.
 3. The Union will organise the setup of the Lennon Wall, and supply the materials for the wall.
 4. After it is set up, the Union should help and make sure the wall is running smoothly and it will not be destroyed by any students.
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Proposed by: Chan Long Him

Seconded by: Ranjeet Rathore

Title: Motion opposing the Halls rent increase

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 01

From: Cayla Martin

Date: 31 October 2019

This Union Notes

1. In the 2018/19 Academic Year the fee for Standard Accommodation was £4232.06, and for En Suite Accommodation was £5833.38
2. In the 2019/20 Academic Year, the fee for Standard Accommodation is now £4333.14, and for En Suite Accommodation is £5,974.36
3. That the minimum maintenance loan for home students at Brunel University is £5,812, however the instalments given equal only £1747.35 in terms one and two, which is lower than the standard rent instalment amount of £1824.48 for term 1 and two in the 19/20 Academic Year
4. That the maximum maintenance loan for home students at Brunel University is £11,672, working out to around £3890 per term, meaning students are left with around £1000 in term one and term two for food, travel and other living expenses given at maximum loan they are expected to receive little to no financial help from their relatives
5. The NUS in their 2018 Accommodation Costs Survey noted that rent “has consistently risen above inflation and the total maintenance loan amount”, with rent now accounting for 73% of all maintenance finance.

This Union Believes

1. Half of Britain’s students are struggling to pay their rent as prices spiral ever higher
2. Nearly two thirds of Britain’s students are dealing with adverse mental health issues related to the high costs of rent, and over 33% saying it negatively impacts their studies.
3. University accommodation should not be about making money, but providing a safe and suitable living environment for students.
4. A lack of reasonably priced accommodation leads to Higher Education being inaccessible
5. Maintenance Loan is provided to help students study full time and dedicate themselves to their chosen field of study, and should at the bare minimum be able to cover the cheapest halls rent available from the University so students don’t have to choose between their studies and working to make rent payments and put food on their tables.

This Union Resolves

1. To create a campaign against rising halls fees, highlighting the stress and strain it puts students under, and the life/study/work imbalance it creates which leans to poor mental health and academic struggles
2. To open dialogue with the University on this issue with the aim, and hope, of a proactive conversation on this issue
3. To ensure any changes made to not reduce the level of service in halls, and that the accommodation team do not cut corners to reduce costs.

This Union Mandates

1. The Executive Committee to designate an Officer/s to lead on this campaign, and for the Union to open dialogue with the relevant departments at the University
 2. For the Union to keep everyone informed of the progress of the campaign.
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Original title: Motion to reduce stress in halls of residence

Amended title: Motion to reduce inconvenience in halls of residence

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: Meeting 1

From: Jack Moss (Student Assembly Community Member)

Date: Monday 21st October 2019

This Union Notes

1. The way that the cleaning staff and residence team communicates key events to students living in halls is not very helpful. Whether it be moments before something is about to happen e.g. an email about the water being shut off at 9am, when the water is due to be shut off at 9:30am the same day or whether it a heavy knock on the door about the kitchen not being clean. An exception is taken with Maintenance requests as they are more in control of the student themselves.
2. When staff require access to Student's room in halls the accommodation team give students a week in which the visit may take place, be this for a room inspection, updating posters, light bulb checks etc.
3. Under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 landlords must give 24 hours' notice before they visit, regardless of circumstances, and the visit must occur at reasonable times of the day
4. While halls of residence do not appear to be covered under this act

This Union Believes

1. These unhelpful actions lead many students to become stressed in an environment which already had plenty of stress for students; while exasperating already existing mental health conditions such as Anxiety in those students effected.
2. Students rightly feel that their privacy is being violated when they are not told of specific dates the University will be entering their hall's room, and that the level of respect expected of students towards their halls and accommodation is not returned by the University in respecting their privacy

This Union Resolves

1. The Union should lobby the Brunel Residence Services team to enact these recommended changes to procedure, while creating a dialogue to enable discussion of further problems in the future.
These changes would include:
 - A 24 hour cut off for works to be undertaken, if they are not communicated to the students in Halls within at least 24 hours, work should not be allowed to start.
 - If a kitchen is in an unclean-able state, this should be left as a notice in the kitchen and followed up with an email, as students may not communicate this fact to the rest of the flat.
2. To highlight the mental health issues caused by the way such inspections and visits are currently called out, and the impact of the violation of privacy caused when staff have walked in on undressed or asleep students

This Union Mandates

1. That the executive committee works to initiate these discussion, if channels are not already present and push to have these changes enacted as soon as possible.
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Proposed by: Jack Moss

Seconded by: Jade Balmer

Title: Union to lobby Brunel University London to declare Climate Change as an Emergency

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 01

From: Ranjeet Rathore, President

Date: 22/10/2019

This Union Notes

1. This motions aims to draw attention to the continued rise in threatening climatic conditions and the impact this will have on future generation of students.
2. The climate crisis has been pushed to the side and ignored for too long. Scientists say we are at the tipping point; what we do now will determine the future of your students and all life on earth; the time for action is now.
3. Sir David Attenborough has said, 'We cannot be radical enough' in tackling the climate crisis, and the people are listening. Universities are the bastions of wisdom and knowledge that are urgently needed to combat the climate crisis. Now is the time to increase our efforts".
4. Many institutions have signed the letter and are working towards this, such as:
 - Bristol University
 - Sussex University
 - Plymouth University
 - University of Glasgow
 - The University of Manchester
 - University of Liverpool
 - Keele University
5. A paper declaring climate change as an emergency was taken to the student experience and welfare committee, by the Union, and it was agreed and sent to the senate for final approval. It will be good to show that the students are backing this motion and really cares.

This Union Believes

1. The Union should be is lobbying the University to join forces with more than 7,000 colleges and universities around the globe to declare a climate emergency and commit to urgent action to address the crisis. The Union should be urging the University to sign the climate emergency declaration letter by UN that recognizes "the need for a drastic societal shift to combat the growing threat of climate change."
2. In signing the declaration, Brunel University London will agree to a three-point plan that includes increasing action-oriented climate research; expanding education and outreach on environmental and sustainability issues; and achieving carbon neutrality by 2030.
3. There is already a great deal of work which the university has been doing as part of various green accreditation such as the Environmental Management System ISO 14001: 2004 and perhaps using our new 2030 research strategy and its challenge-led approach, we will tackle climate change.
4. We need to more and support this ongoing research and we need to do it fast. We call on the university to join us in declaring a Climate Emergency and to commit to continue to expand its current work and research into Climate Change to help create a better future for both people and our planet.
5. In order to make the biggest impact this option of "Brunel University London declaring Climate Change as an Emergency" is the best way forward. It will send a clear message that Brunel University's students and staff know that we must take radical action now, firstly by acknowledging the severity of the climate crisis and declaring it as an emergency, and secondly, by committing Brunel's three world leading Research Institutes that bring together academics from most of our research areas to collaboratively tackle very specific research and educational challenges regarding climate change.

This Union Resolves

1. Force the university to update the university environment web page with the latest sustainability statistics: <https://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/environment>
2. Ensure the university give a public statement on the progress with the sustainability goals, providing reasoning and remedial action to meet are targets if not already doing so.

3. To assist the university in finalising the environmental policy so it is no longer a draft, incorporating a strong sense of sustainability
4. To challenge the university to declare climate change an emergency and that they are committed to reducing its impact on the environment.
5. To hold the union itself to the same level of accountability, ensuring that SMART targets are created and achieved.
6. To continue to promote the efforts taken by both the union and the university to reduce its impact on the environment through a regular updates on a newsletter/website post
7. Continue to push both the university and the union to reduce its climate change impact and increase its sustainability

This Union Mandates

2. The President to lobby Brunel University London to declare Climate Change as an Emergency and sign the declaration which 7000 other intuitions
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Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Seconded by: Sam Johnson (VPCHLS)

Title: Motion to update the Unions election bye-laws

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 2

From: Disabled Students Officer, Sean Cullen

Date: 14/11/2019

This Union Notes

1. The bye-laws for the Union elections were written before online elections came into effect. At this time nominations were done via a paper form and voting was conducted through a paper ballot.
2. The Union now accepts nominations online, with all information relevant to students being hosted on the elections pages of the website.
3. Voting is conducted through an online voting application or via a computer application at a physical ballot station.

This Union Believes

1. The Unions core election rules and processes need to be updated to reflect how we now do elections.
2. The system of print credits is outdated and needlessly complicated. As such the Union should be able to identify clearly what resources it wished to give candidates without being restricted by the out dated concept of printing credit.
3. Although our rules outline that a member may only cast their own vote, we do not feel it is outlined strongly enough in the bye-laws. As such we believe the bye-laws should be updated to make this clearer.

This Union Resolves

1. To update the Union bye-laws in line with the appendix of this motion.

1.1 Process of nomination, clause 7, Replace with:

“The nominations process shall be accessible to all members, and key information relating to the election shall be made available alongside the nomination form. This shall, at minimum, include the Elections Procedures and any supplementary regulations.”

1.2 Process of nomination, clause 9, Replace with:

“Nominations shall only be valid if made on the official published form and correctly completed and submitted. A nominee must also have completed any mandatory requirements outlined in the supplementary regulations for the nomination to be considered valid.”

1.3 Expenses, clause 18, Replace with:

“The Union may allocate resources to candidates, these resources and the amounts shall be agreed by Democracy Committee. In addition to these resources each candidate shall be allowed to spend personal money on campaign materials as outlined below.”

1.4 voting, add:

“Members may only cast their own ballot, they cannot cast a ballot on behalf of another member.”

Proposer: Sean Cullen

Secunder: Ranjeet Rathore

Election Bye Law
Bye-Law B excerpt:

Elections Procedures relating to general conduct. Please refer to the Bye-laws document for the full Bye-law

The process of nomination

7. The nominations process shall be accessible to all members, and key information relating to the election shall be made available alongside the nomination form. This shall, at minimum, include the Elections Procedures and any supplementary regulations. ~~There shall be a nominations pack available to all members wishing to consider standing for election. This shall, at minimum, contain the official nominations documents, the Elections Procedures and any supplementary regulations.~~
8. Nominations shall be open for at least five working days.
9. Nominations shall only be valid if made on the official published form and correctly completed and submitted. ~~A nominee must also have completed any mandatory requirements outlined in the supplementary regulations for the nomination to be considered valid. The relevant procedure shall be clearly identified within the nominations pack.~~
10. Candidates are responsible for ensuring they are eligible to be nominated for a given position by referring to section 2.1 to 2.9 of this bye law.
11. No member may nominate or second more than one candidate for the same position.
12. Candidates for the position of Vice President CBASS, CHLS and CEDPS must be students of that particular college.

Expenses

18. ~~The Union may allocate resources to candidates, these resources and the amounts shall be agreed by Democracy Committee. In addition to these resources each candidate shall be allowed to spend personal money on campaign materials as outlined below. The Union shall provide credit to the value of £20 to cover basic publishing. Campaign expenses sourced in — house. Each candidate shall be allowed to spend personal money in addition to the Union credit on campaign materials as outlined below.~~
19. Student Officers – Each candidate standing for election as a Student Officer shall be permitted to spend up to £100.
20. All other positions – Each candidate in all other Union elections shall be permitted to spend up to £30.
21. Candidates must provide detailed accounts of the expenditure incurred in connection with their election campaigns, including receipts, prior to the election count in order to remain eligible for election.
22. Where candidates are standing for two positions (or more) their overall permitted spend will be calculated as follows; 100% of the first position where this is the greatest allowance + 40% of the second position allowance + 20% of the third position allowance.
23. In the case of material being previously owned by candidates or campaign teams the items must be registered

with the Election and Referenda Committee. The Committee shall consider the cost of purchasing said materials and require that this sum be included in the overall calculation of the candidate's accounts and submitted accordingly.

Voting

24. The method of voting in all Union elections shall be the Alternative Transferable Vote where only one position is available and the Single Transferable Vote system where multiple positions exist within the same election.
25. The Election and Referenda Committee shall identify appropriate locations for ballot stations to be situated on campus. The minimum number of stations shall be one, which shall be located within the main building of the Union.
26. Each ballot station shall make provision for the clear identification of each candidate in a non – partisan way.
27. Ballot papers shall clearly identify each candidate and the election in which they are running.
28. The ballot shall be conducted over a minimum of 1 and maximum of 5 consecutive University days.
29. **Members may only cast their own ballot, they cannot cast a ballot on behalf of another member.**
29. Any attempt to defraud the elections process by any member of the Union shall be referred immediately to a Union Disciplinary Panel as outlined in Bye Law O.

Title: Young Carers
To: Student Assembly
Meeting: 2
From: Ranjeet Rathore, Students Union President
Date: 14/11/2019

This Union Notes

1. A young adult carer is anyone aged 14-25 who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support.
2. That student carers are a hidden group within university.
3. The BBC estimates that **there are about 700,000 young carers in the UK.**
4. Research has shown that student carers experience additional challenges at university
5. Research has also found that half of the days young adult carers spent at college or university were affected because of caring responsibilities. This could take the form of coming in late, leaving early or being absent for the whole day.
6. Young adult carers are four times more likely to drop out of college or university than their peers.
7. Young carers are more likely to be emotionally abused by the person you are caring for.
8. 42% have paid employment alongside time spent education and caring to support them in their studies, suggesting they are having financial difficulties.
9. There is no duty for universities to identify the numbers of student carers at their university.
10. There can be groups of students within the university who have come from the care side of life themselves.
11. There is no requirement for universities to offer tailored support to young adult carers at their university.

This Union Believes

1. That no student at this university should feel that they are unable to complete their course to the best of their ability due to their caring responsibilities.
2. That carers of all ages should not feel at a disadvantage at this university because of their caring role.
3. Support all young adult carers throughout their education to ensure they maintain good mental health, complete their course and achieve the best grades possible.
4. Identify the number of young adult carers attending Brunel University.
5. Union should work closely with the Widening participation team and start the work.

This Union Resolves

1. Report on young adult carer progress to showcase universities' achievements.
2. To support young adult carers at this university by adding our pledge to the Carers Trust Going Higher campaign.
3. To approach the university Widening Participation team and ask them to put the good practice contained in the Carers Trust university toolkit in place.
4. To encourage the university Widening Participation team to include young carers in their access agreements before the OFFA guidance comes into force
5. Union should work with the widening participation team and explain it to the front facing student staff that how their situation might differ from others due to their nature of circumstance.
6. To work alongside the Widening Participation team to evaluate relevant policies and modify them as required to better support student carers
7. To link with local carers groups to improve support.

Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Seconded by: George Wardle (VPSA)

Title: Motion to put seat padding in ALL lecture theatre rooms across the Lecture Centre

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 2

From: Aliasger Bharmal

Date: 04/11/2019

This Union Notes

1. On the ground floor of the Lecture Centre the theatre rooms are refurbished and the seats are padded.
2. Some students also have lectures in the second floor and not just in the ground floor of the Lecture Centre. As such they have to utilise the rooms that have not been refurbished, and do not have padded seating.
3. Ever since the padded seats have been implemented on the ground floor of Lecture Centre rooms, many students feel more comfortable. One day, following a lecture, 15 students second year students were asked about the padded seats, and all the students had felt they were better and more comfortable than last year, which had no padded seats (i.e. just a wooden seat).

This Union Believes

1. Having all padded seats in all Lecture Centre rooms is a good thing because it is more comfortable and your bottom does not ache, especially when you have 2 or more hours of lecture.
2. With comfortable seats, students feel that they can participate and 'make them feel at home in the classroom.'
3. Research has even supported this claim that 'high-quality classroom environments can help students to increase self-esteem and are motivated to engage in the learning process.' (According to Dr. Sheryl Reinisch, (Concordia University-Portland))
4. Cheap options are available to implement this without replacing the existing seats, as zipped seat covers can be purchased.

This Union Resolves

1. For the Union to campaign for and lobby the University to upgrade all seating in the Lecture Centre to padded seating.
 2. The Union to discuss this with the relevant departmental team at the University, such as the estates or the maintenance team.
 3. For the Union to get these teams to action this as soon as possible.
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Proposed by: Aliasger Bharmal

Seconded by: Ranjeet Rathore

Title: Union to Lobby Brunel University to Divest by 2020

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 2

From: Ranjeet Rathore, Students Union President

Date: 14/11/2019

This Union Notes

1. The University came 112th in People & Planet's 2019 UK University League table on environmental and ethical performance.¹
2. There has been a long-standing campaign by student activists to force the University to divest from fossil fuels.
3. That People & Planet, in partnership with 350.org and others, has launched a Fossil Free UK campaign, calling on UK higher education institutions to divest from fossil fuels and sever their links with these companies.
4. That the existing fossil fuel reserves of the world's 200 largest fossil fuel companies by proven carbon reserves are well in excess of the amount of carbon that can be safely burned to have a chance of staying below 2°C of global warming.

This Union Believes

1. The University is currently failing its students by not immediately declaring and responding to a Climate Emergency and divesting from fossil fuels.
2. That climate change is one of the biggest problems students face and its affects will have chilling impacts on our generation.
3. The University should not be complicit in 'greenwashing' by accepting academic or conference funding or sponsorship funding from fossil fuel companies.
4. That the fossil fuel industry, by extracting, processing, promoting and facilitating the use of, selling and profiting from fossil fuels, as well as by having a major influence on government policy, is complicit in causing climate change and its catastrophic impacts.
5. That Brunel University should put policy in place to prevent any future investments this year in order to set a clear message that the fossil fuel industries influence is not welcome on our campus.

This Union Resolves

1. Support People & Planet's 'Divest Barclays' campaign, and the NUS's 'Divest-Invest' campaign.
 2. Commit to permanently adopting fossil-free investments as soon as possible, and by all means before the end of the 2020/2021 academic year.
 3. Demand the University immediately, completely, and permanently divests from all fossil fuel companies.
 4. To have Brunel University formally announce it will continue to not invest in fossil fuels and only make sound ethical investments in the future.
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Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Seconded by: Peri Sherif (VP CDEPS)

¹ <https://peopleandplanet.org/university/129361/u119>

Motion

Title: Union to Lobby Brunel University to improve water fountain provision on campus

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 2

From: Ranjeet Rathore, Students Union President

Date: 14/11/2019

This Union Notes

1. That much work is needed to improve the sustainability of the University, as indicated by its placing of 112th on the People & Planet's 2019 UK University League table on environmental and ethical performance.
2. That buying disposable bottles of water is more environmentally damaging than drinking tap water from a reusable bottle, by both sending more waste to landfill and emitting more greenhouse gas emissions in plastic manufacturer and during transportation.
3. There is an absence of drinking fountains and signs indicating the location of water fountains in many parts of our campus.

This Union Believes

1. That water should be freely and easily accessible to all.
2. That the current provision of water fountains at Brunel University is insufficient, and that existing water fountains are often out of order.
3. That the lack of signage and signposting means students are not aware of where water fountains are located, and as such they will often buy bottled water instead of re-filling existing bottles.

This Union Resolves

1. To campaign for the installation of new drinking fountains in a prominent accessible positions though out campus.
 2. To campaign for improved signage for all drinking fountains on campus, so that fountains are visible and their locations clearly identifiable to students.
 3. To ensure all water fountains are maintained and kept in working order.
 4. For Locos to advertise that it will fill up reusable water bottles free of charge.
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Proposed by: Sajni Vekaria

Seconded by: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Title: Reusable Cups

To: Student Assembly

From: Sajni Vekaria & Kareem Ali

Date: 15/01/2020

This Union Notes

1. 2.5 billion coffee cups are thrown away yearly in the UK, with the majority of them not being recyclable.
2. Societies and Sport Clubs' events waste a lot of single use plastic cups, especially at social events being held on campus.
3. Union organised events also use single use cups when providing hot drinks to students.
4. The Union has renewed its focus on environmental issues by developing a new policy which will govern how they can be a more environmentally responsible organisation.

This Union Believes

1. For Brunel University to achieve their aim to become carbon neutral by 2030 we need to increase environmental awareness amongst our community.
2. We will also need to reduce the use of single use plastics in all the stores on campus.
3. Appendix A supports all of the evidence that single use plastics will increase Brunel's' environmental status, by reducing our carbon footprint significantly, and reducing landfill waste. As a Student's Union with a commitment to tackling the climate crisis we should be pushing for change in the University, along with making change in our own venues.

This Union Resolves

1. For the Union to highly encourage students to bring their own reusable cups to all social events on campus, by running a campaign during Green Week, selling the cups at a reduced price.
2. Ensure that all stores on campus, give students a discounted price on all drinks, if one uses their own reusable cup/ mug.
3. To lobby by the University and other providers on campus to get on board with this campaign.

This Union Mandates

1. SU President and Environmental & Ethics Officer to organise a campaign to run during Green Week, ensuring that this is heavily promoted working alongside several sports and academic societies.
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Proposed by: Kareem Ali

Seconded by: Sajni Vekaria

Motion

Title: Motion to approve the new Ethics and Environmental Policies

To: Student Assembly

From: Ranjeet Rathore, Students Union President

Date: 14/11/2019

This Union Notes

5. The Union last write it's environmental and Ethics policy in 2010, since then only tweaks have been made.
6. Science and technology has advanced rapidly over the last 10 years.
7. Students at university are from a different generation to those who originally write and approved the Unions environment and ethics policy.
8. The Union considers climate change to be an emergency.

This Union Believes

4. The Union needs to have policy that reflects today's world and the students we are currently representing.
5. The old policy is no longer fit for purpose and as such an updated policy is required.
6. That the current policy muddles together both ethical and environmental issues, as such we should have 2 policies top cover environmental and ethical standards.

This Union Resolves

5. To approve both the Ethics and Environmental policies outlined in the Appendix of this motion.
 6. For the Union to set clear annual objectives.
 7. For the Union to set up an environmental working group with relevant staff and Officers.
 8. To report on our environmental impact annually.
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Proposed by: Ranjeet Rathore (President)

Seconded by: Peri Sherif (VP CEDPS)

Title: Stop stressing our Mature and Postgraduates Students

To: Student Assembly

From: Kareem Ali, Student Assembly

Date: 16/01/2020

This Union Notes

1. Postgraduates must evacuate their accommodation rooms two weeks before their dissertation submissions.
2. Moving in and out is always a stressful event in everyone's life.
3. Students are between finding a new accommodation, packing from existing rooms, unpacking into their new rooms and submitting their final year projects, which creates too much for anyone to handle and has a major effect on their mental wellbeing.

This Union Believes

1. This motion is helping to reduce the stress on the Mature and Postgraduate students.
2. Our students should only worry about their submission.
3. Our students should not have to suffer depression and anxiety.
4. This is unacceptable to happen to our students.

This Union Resolves

1. To lobby the accommodation team to not evacuate the postgraduate students from halls until they have submitted their final year projects.
2. This can be achieved by delaying the general students from receiving their rooms as early as usual.
3. The general students in return can be compensated by free discount coupons on campus.
4. This is believed to be a fair and effective way to support our beloved students.

This Union Mandates

1. SU President:
Shall start by contacting the accommodation office and propose our solution.
Sort out the compensation coupons for students.
Should try to make it happen for this year for engineering students.

Proposed by: Kareem Ali

Seconded by: Omar Megahed & Ranjeet Rathore

Title: Give power back to Societies Guild

To: AGM, February 2020

From: Daniel Knights

Date: 21/01/20

This Union Notes

1. The Unions Bye-laws comprehensively outline the rules around Societies Guild. This includes details around CASES, affiliations, grants and how to set up a new society.
2. The Bye-laws can only be changed by Student Assembly or AGM.
3. Societies Guild Standing Committee has responsibility for overseeing the running of societies and the processes that govern societies.
4. The AGM regulations for societies require a quoracy of 50% plus 1.

This Union Believes

1. Having the rules that govern Societies Guild outlined in the bye-laws undermines the power of Societies Guild. It means that the Guild must approach student assembly to have any rules changed.
2. The amount of information included in this bye-law is more comprehensive than it should be. Rules around; CASES, affiliations, grants and how to set up a new society should be the responsibility off Societies Guild Standing Committee. As such the Standing Committee should have a rules and regulations document which includes these areas.
3. The AGM quoracy for societies is out dated, and doesn't take into account the inactive members a free society may accrue throughout the year.

This Union Resolves

1. For the Union to amend the Bye-laws in line with Appendix A. This includes the removal of details around CASES, management of society's funds, affiliations, grants and how to set up a new society.
 2. For new rules around quoracy at AGM to be implemented. With societies with less than 50 members requiring a quoracy of 35% of the members, and societies with 50 members or more requiring 25% of the members.
 3. For Societies Guild Standing Committee to generate a rules and regulations document outlining all the items that govern the running and setting up of a society.
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Proposed by: Daniel Knights

Seconded by: George Wardle

To: AGM, February 2020

From: Bikrum Dhillon

Date: 21/01/20

This Union Notes

1. The Unions Bye-laws comprehensively outline the rules around Team Brunel. This includes details around CASES, affiliations, grants and how to set up a new club.
2. The Bye-laws can only be changed by Student Assembly or AGM.
3. Team Brunel Standing Committee has responsibility for overseeing the running of clubs and the processes that govern clubs.
4. The AGM regulations for clubs require a quoracy of 50% plus 1.

This Union Believes

1. Having the rules that govern Team Brunel outlined in the bye-laws undermines the power of Team Brunel. It means that they must approach Student Assembly to have any rules changed.
2. The amount of information included in this bye-law is more comprehensive than it should be. Rules around; CASES, affiliations, grants and how to set up a new club should be the responsibility off Team Brunel Standing Committee. As such the Standing Committee should have a rules and regulations document which includes these areas.
3. The AGM quoracy for clubs is out dated, and doesn't take into account the inactive members that may join clubs due to membership being free.

This Union Resolves

1. For the Union to amend the Bye-laws in line with Appendix B. This includes the removal of details around CASES, management of clubs funds, affiliations, grants and how to set up a new society.
 2. For new rules around quoracy at AGM to be implemented. With team sports clubs requiring a quoracy of 35% of the members, and individual sports clubs requiring 25% of the members.
 3. For Team Brunel Standing Committee to generate a rules and regulations document outlining all the items that govern the running and setting up of a club.
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Proposed by: Bikrum Dhillon

Seconded by: George Wardle