



Motions document

AGM 2009

Election of a Placement Student Officer on UPSU Student Parliament

Union Notes:

- There are many students at the university who undertake placements as part of their course.
- Student Parliament is the democratic forum for setting Union policy and discussing issues affecting students. It is a recognised forum within the University.
- UPSU does not currently elect a Placement Student Officer on Student Parliament.

Union Believes

- Placement students should be represented within UPSU democratic structures.
- Placement students have diverse and different needs whilst on placement.
- There are many problems associated with the allocation of placements in some Faculties.

Union Further Believes

- UPSU should elect a Placement Student Officer on to UPSU Student Parliament, to represent the needs and views of Placement Students.
- The Placement Student Officer will be elected as appropriate in UPSU cross-campus elections.

Proposer: Aleshia Sampson

Seconder: James Redfearn

Motion for increased student access and utilisation of free drinking water

The Union Notes:

- Bottled water and soft drinks are expensive.
- There is huge additional environmental cost attributed to bottled water over tap water.
- Tap water is safe drinking water.
- Access to drinking tap water is limited on campus. Those areas in which it is available are not accessible at all times of day.
- Students learn better when they are fully hydrated.
- Our partner colleges have already successfully run similar campaigns.
- Drinking water is healthier than drinking widely available soft drinks.

The Union Believes:

- Students generally have limited funds; they should not have to pay excessively for such simple needs as hydration.
- Tap water is a cheap commodity that should be offered to students across campus and made available where it currently isn't.
- Students are interested in green and positive ecological decisions being made as they are the people that will have to live in the future we are creating; the environmental cost of bottled water is of concern.
- Studies have proved that constant, easy access to water in schools improves the learning process. University students should be able to benefit from this too.
- The University's claims of being environmentally friendly should encourage it to back this campaign.
- UPSU could easily support this through it's bar and shop, promoting the availability of free drinking water that it already has.
- Encouraging free water discourages the promotion of fizzy drinks, which inevitably leads to a more healthy lifestyle

The Union Resolves:

- Not to promote the sale of bottled water to students.
- To actively campaign to promote knowledge of the benefits and availability of free tap water.
- To mandate union officers to lobby the University to make access to free tap water widely available.
- Create a working group to plan a large scale campaign on this issue.

Proposed: Clare Willis (Independent Rep)

Seconded: Barney Smyth (Independent Rep)