

Cardiff University Students' Union
Undeb Myfyrwyr Prifysgol Caerdydd

POLICY BOOK

UPDATED JANUARY 2017



POLICY BOOK

The Policy Book shall be kept in the Union building in the care of the Union Secretary and shall be maintained as a true record of the policy of the Union as resolved by a General Meeting or Student Council.

The Policy Book shall be divided into the following sections:

- (i) Educational & University Affairs
- (ii) Students' Welfare.
- (iii) Social and Political Affairs.
- (iv) Administrative Matters.
- (v) Company matters (these shall be for the information of the Company and shall not be used as a directive or discuss any staffing issues).

The Union Secretary shall be responsible for entering the appropriate parts of resolutions passed at General Meetings or Student Council into the Policy Book. Where new policy contradicts existing policy, both the existing and the new policy shall be presented to Student Council to allow the members to decide which policy they accept. Any dispute over the Union Secretary's entering or removal of material in the Policy Book shall be settled by Student Council.

Policy will lapse after being in existence for three years unless re-affirmed by the body it was passed by at the time of lapse.

The Union Secretary shall inform Student Council of any policy that has lapsed and been removed from the Policy Book. This information shall be minuted.

The Union Secretary shall on request, make available for inspection by an Ordinary Member an up-to-date copy of the Policy Book.

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EDUCATIONAL & UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

Policy Title	Body Approved by	Date Passed	Date Expires
Healthy Eating in ASSL	Student Senate	28/04/2015	28/04/2018
Transparency around university investments and where they are spent around campus with more opportunities for student input	Student Senate	01/12/2015	01/12/2018
Lecture Recording	Student Senate	02/02/2016	02/02/2019
Tuition fees should not rise with TEF in Wales	Student Senate	24/01/2020	24/01/2020

Healthy Eating in ASSL

Passed by Student Senate 28/04/2015

Senate Notes.

1. The Arts and Social Studies Library is the largest library on campus.
2. Consistently popular with students beyond its already wide range of subjects, its 24 hour opening during the summer exam period further underlines the importance of the ASSL for students who frequently use it for extended study periods.
3. At present the only food and drink provision in the ASSL is a hot drinks machine and a vending machine that stocks chocolate bars, crisps, sweets and soft drinks.
4. That around the Cathays campus there exists healthier vending machines which stock fruit juices, fruit and sandwiches. These healthier vending machines can be found in the John Percival refectory, the Bute Building Coffee Shop and the Main Building Coffee Shop as well as other locations.
5. That these healthier vending machines also stock cookies and muffins, maintaining variety.

Senate Believes.

1. That students studying in the ASSL currently have to leave the library and interrupt their study to purchase more substantial food such as sandwiches or healthier snacks such as fruit.
2. Sugary, fatty snacks are not as conducive to learning and concentration as fruit and sandwiches.
3. That the healthier vending machines around campus prove that choosing between different unhealthy foods in vending machines is not a choice students should have to make.
4. That greater provision of these healthier vending machines will still offer sweet snacks but provide a much more varied selection of healthier food and drinks.

Senate Resolves.

1. For the union to lobby the university to introduce a healthier vending machine in the ASSL, Cochrane Library, and other libraries where possible, similar to those healthier vending machines found around campus.
2. For the food and drink in these vending machines to be sold at affordable prices.

Notes.

Article on the importance of healthy snacking for exam [preparation-](http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/eating-exams)
<http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/eating-exams>

A study that shows students don't mind buying healthier options from vending machines-
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/08/140804123015.htm>

Submitted by: Jake Smith

Transparency around university investments and where they are spent around campus with more opportunities for student input

Passed by Student Senate 01/12/2015

Senate Notes:

- 1) The university invests millions of pounds a year creating and refurbishing buildings. 42% of the university's income is directly from tuition fees, and so a significant proportion of investments are directly funded by students.
- 2) The institutional review about the standards and quality report (2014) on Cardiff University assessed by UK Quality Assured specified in s4.10 that the only current practice the university has undertaken in showing how student fees are spent is an Annual Fee Plan Report and that the university has not developed an substantial overview report specifically on enhancement activities.
- 3) The university has released an Annual Fee Report to students for the 2013/2014 academic year, which was a total of 5 pages. This gave little information regarding exact figures and investments that were made on specific places across Cardiff University's campus. The university currently plans to release the report for the 2014/2015 academic year in the spring of 2016.

Senate Believes:

- 1) It is students' right to know exactly where investments are spent around the university campus due to the huge contribution that their tuition fees make to the university's income.
- 2) The last Annual Fee Report was inadequate at highlighting how investments around campus, such as improvements to subject buildings and facilities, have benefited students' learning experience as descriptions given were too brief.
- 3) Students are not given enough opportunities in their first and second year at university to express their concerns regarding how investments should be spent in their subject buildings.
- 4) This issue goes beyond the realm of academic reps and requires subject departments to conduct clear and accessible surveys as to what students feel needs to be improved in their academic buildings.
- 5) Future financial/investment reports need to be easily accessible on both the Cardiff University and students union website.

Senate Resolves:

- 1) For the students union to lobby the university to present this financial report for students, in a more student-friendly way detailing public investment. The report needs to go beyond a descriptive approach to investments and needs to be more analytical and evaluative for students to feel fully satisfied with the improvements made to their learning environment.
- 2) For the students union to call on the university to review what provisions can be put in place for students to have input into where investments go and for the union to lobby the university to promote more opportunities into where money is investment (particularly in their subject buildings); which only relays the views of students who are leaving university and not still undergoing academic study at the university.

- 3) For the students union to create awareness of all public investment surrounding the release of the report and its impact on university students.

Submitted by Chiron Hooson

Lecture Recording

Submitted by Madeline Page

Passed by Senate 02/02/16

Student Senate Notes:

1. Some students have their lectures recorded and then made available to them through Learning Central for revision purposes. Students have found this very beneficial.
2. This feature is not currently available to all students because not all lecture theatres have recording facilities.
3. This feature is not currently available to all students because some lecturers prefer not to be recorded.

Student Senate Believes:

1. The recordings are a useful revision tool and are especially important for students with disabilities that make note taking during lectures difficult.
2. They also benefit students who have to work whilst they study - something which shouldn't negatively affect their exam performance, but does if they have to miss lectures.
3. Lecture recordings are also beneficial to students who, due to extenuating circumstances or illness, may miss lectures.
4. Some students may choose not to attend lectures regardless of whether lectures are recorded or not (for example during events some students choose not to attend for reasons other than being able to obtain the lecture recording online).
5. All students learn differently and students have the right to choose how they learn; therefore the university should assist all students as much as possible.
6. Lecturers reserve the right to edit the lecture recordings before it is made accessible to students.
7. Due to remaining issues with joint honours degrees, lecture recordings would be beneficial for students who have lecture and/or seminar clashes.
8. Each lecturer has a different style (some speak quieter than others, some faster) and therefore lecture recordings would enable students to improve their lectures notes and understanding of the content.

Student Senate Resolves:

1. Elected Officers should continue to lobby the university to ensure that teaching spaces have lecture recording capabilities in every school.
2. While lecture theatres are in the process of being installed with recording facilities lecturers should be able to request audio equipment from the Learn Plus project team.

Tuition Fees should not rise with TEF in Wales

Passed at Student Senate 24/01/17

Proposer: Mo Hanafy – VP Education
Seconders: Chiron Hooson – Student Senator
Fadhila Al Dhahouri – Ed Exec

Senate Notes:

1. Tuition fees, having been tripled in 2012, currently stand at £9000 per year for full-time UK undergraduates.
2. The Higher Education and Research Bill (HE Bill) was first read in the House of Commons in May 2016, it is currently at the committee stage in the House of Lords.
3. Within the HE Bill, lies the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF).
4. TEF is a measure which ranks universities as Gold, Silver or Bronze based on metrics relating to teaching quality.
5. Official TEF Guidance confirms TEF will be in-effect for students entering education in autumn 2017.
6. TEF will allow eligible universities to raise fees in line with inflation. Inflation in the UK has risen by an average of 2.3% each year over the past 10 years.
7. Both Welsh and English Universities are participating in TEF however, only (eligible) English Universities are set to raise fees. The Welsh Government has currently pegged tuition at £9000 in Wales.
8. Recent news suggests some Welsh Universities are afraid of appearing as “second class” universities compared to those who raise fees in England.
9. The Welsh Government has only confirmed tuition fees at £9000 for the academic year 2017/18.
10. Some Welsh institutions are publicly advertising that their fees are subject to increase in future in line with government policy.
11. This could lead to an increase in tuition fees in Welsh Universities if the Government sees Welsh institutions favour it. This increase could start taking effect in the academic year 2018/19.

Senate Believes:

1. An increase in tuition fees in Welsh institutions means:
 - a. Students in Wales will graduate with more debt.
 - b. The advantage that Welsh universities currently have over English ones will be withdrawn.
 - c. Fees could keep on increasing with no real ‘cap’ since inflation has not dropped below 0% in the past 20 years.
 - d. Students from less advantaged backgrounds will be more put off going to university.
2. We must think of the next generations and how inaccessible education could become.
3. In order for our concerns to reach the Welsh Government, NUS Wales must be mandated to lobby them.

Senate Resolves:

1. Cardiff University Students' Union will submit this motion to NUS Wales National Conference.
2. This motion mandates NUS Wales to lobby the Welsh government for a commitment to no rise in fees for the next 5 years.

STUDENTS' WELFARE

Policy Title	Body Approved by	Date Passed	Date Expires
Anti-Lad Culture Policy	Student Senate	03/02/2014	03/12/2017
Being a Zero Tolerance Union (updated)	AGM	24/11/2016	24/11/2019
Sanitary Products	Student Senate	03/02/2014	03/02/2017
Increase awareness about carbon monoxide poisoning	Student Senate	17/03/2014	17/12/2017
Support for Student Parents	AGM	12/11/2015	12/11/2018
Compulsory Mental Health	AGM	11/12/2015	11/12/2018
To provide support for a student-led Menstrual Products Donation Scheme (Periods in Poverty)	AGM	24/11/2016	24/11/2019
Creation Of A Mental Health Part Time Campaign Officer	AGM	24/11/2016	24/11/2019
Humanist Chaplin in Cardiff University	Student Senate	24/01/2017	24/01/2020
Time to change pledge renewal	Student Senate	24/01/2017	24/01/2020

Anti-Lad Culture Policy

Passed by Student Senate 03/12/2013

Issue:

- Lad culture can be defined as a pack mentality resulting in 'banter' that is often sexist, misogynistic and homophobic. Heavy alcohol consumption is often involved. It is a sexualised culture that often involves the objectification of women and rape-supportive attitudes (adapted from That's What She Said Report, NUS, 2013)
- There have been multiple instances of lad culture within Cardiff University, and individuals have reported feeling pressured into participating in sexist/homophobic 'banter' and heavy drinking.
- Lad culture encourages gender-, sexuality- and rape-based humour, and this can be extremely hurtful.
- It is not the sole preserve of men – both men and women propagate lad culture and both men and women are affected by it. This motion is not intended to be anti-men.

Benefit:

- The aim of the Union should be to create a safe, positive and empowering environments for all student
- No student should feel unsafe, bullied or harassed
- Myths about sexual violence and rape must be challenged
- Gender- and sexuality-based harassment can be extremely upsetting and create a negative environment
- Rape jokes can be triggering for students and again create a negative environment

Action:

- Mandate officers to follow NUS recommendations resulting from the consultation on Lad Culture
- Mandate officers to carry out gender equity sessions (including topics such as the Zero Tolerance policy, sexual violence etc) for sports teams and societies
- Produce guidance educating student union staff and academic staff (including personal tutors) about sexual violence, including recommendations on supporting students and information about further resources
- Campaign against sexism, homophobia and myths around sexual violence in conjunction with the CWA and LGBT+ association
- Campaign against lad culture and the websites/companies that promote it such as UniLad and 'Spotted' Facebook pages
- Support Reclaim the Night marches held in Cardiff
- Continue to publicise the Zero Tolerance policy, and train all student union staff – including temporary staff – in the Zero Tolerance policy
- Ban songs that Student Senate and/or the officer team feel promote sexual violence, misogyny or homophobia from being played at Student Union club nights or on Xpress Radio

Submitted by: Emma Carragher

Being a zero tolerance union

Submitted by: Emily Broad, Oliver Canning

Passed at AGM 24/11/2016

AGM Notes:

1. Cardiff University Student's Union passed a new Zero Tolerance Harassment policy in 2015, which gave notice of the differences between Cardiff University's Zero Tolerance Harassment Policy, and it's own.
2. Please see table below containing the 2015 version of the policy:

AGM Notes:

1. Students' Unions exist to improve students' experience of university. This involves advancing the quality of education and social welfare of its members, both collectively and individually, by providing them with representation, services, support, and by campaigning on their behalf.
2. The National Union of Students (NUS) '*Hidden Marks*' report in 2010 found that:
 - 1 in 7 women students has been the victim of serious sexual assault or serious physical violence while at university or college;
 - Only 4% of women students who have been seriously sexually assaulted have reported it to their institution;
 - Only 10% of women students who have been seriously sexually assaulted have reported it to the police;
 - Of those who did not report serious sexual assault to the police, 50% said it was because they felt ashamed or embarrassed, and 43% because thought they would be blamed for what happened.
3. The NUS '*Lad Culture and Sexism Survey*' in August/September 2014 also found that:
 - 60% of students asked said they were unaware if their Students' Union/University had a Zero Tolerance policy in place.
4. A report by Drink Aware, an alcohol misuse charity, in September 2011 titled '*Drunken nights out: motivations, norms and rituals in the night time economy*' found that:
 - Only 19% said they were surprised that sexual harassment had taken place on a night out.
5. Cardiff University Students' Union passed the Zero Tolerance Policy in February 2012. The policy covers the remit of the Union building and recognises the fact that sexual harassment should not be ignored, tolerated, excused in any way, stating that students should not have to accept the following behaviour:
 - Unwanted sexual comments/invitation;
 - Groping, pinching or smacking of your body;

- Wolf-whistling or catcalling;
- Having your clothes lifted without consent;
- Someone exposing themselves to you without consent.

If, after investigation, sexual harassment is found to have occurred, the perpetrator will not be allowed to enter the Union building. Depending on the severity of the harassment, the police may be involved and it may be classed as a criminal offence.

Cardiff University passed its own Zero Tolerance policy in 2012 under the 'Dignity in Work and Study' policy. This policy covers all University property including academic buildings and halls of residences. The policy stipulates that any behaviour classed as sexual harassment would be investigated and dealt with as deemed appropriate

- In contrary to the Union's policy, procedures for reprimanding the perpetrator differ in that it is dealt with through the University's 'Procedures for the Resolution of Students' Concerns/Issues'.
- In contrary to the Union's policy, consequences for breaching the University's Zero Tolerance policy can vary depending on the severity of the offence. Consequences can include temporary exclusion, moving students from Residences (if the offence took place within Residences) and possible expulsion from the University as whole.

3. Cardiff University Student's Union's Zero Tolerance Harassment policy only refers to harassment of a sexual nature, not harassment as a whole.
4. Cardiff University Student's Union's Zero Tolerance policy clearly states that it only applies, and is only enforced, within the walls of the Student Union, with no mention of any enforcement within the bodies that exist within its framework (namely the Guild of Societies, the Athletic Union, and Student Media).
5. This does not provide students with an adequate support structure to aid them, should they experience harassment, of any nature.

AGM Believes:

1. That the Student's Union should extend the Zero Tolerance Harassment policy to include harassment of any nature, not just sexual.
2. The *Protection From Harassment Act 1997* defines 'harassment' as: 'A person's course or conduct that causes serious alarm or distress which has a substantial adverse effect on another person's usual day-to-day activities'.
3. Examples of Harassment may include: (this is not an exhaustive list)
 - Unwanted phone calls, texts, letters, emails or visits
 - Abuse and bullying online
 - Stalking
 - Verbal abuse and/or threats
4. That the Student's Union should extend the remit of its Zero Tolerance Harassment policy, beyond the walls of the Student's Union building, to include groups that operate within the

framework of the Union, such as the Guild of Societies, the Athletic Union, and Student Media.

5. That the Students' Union should challenge and condemn the idea that harassment is to be expected as part of normal student life and nightlife.
6. Objectification and stereotyping women leads to a culture of sexual harassment and its normalisation. Therefore the levels of reported harassment, particularly that of sexual harassment, severely under-represents the true number of incidents due to normalisation of harassment, embarrassment of the individual and fear of repercussions.
7. That statistics presented in the NUS and Drinkaware reports stated above severely under represent the number the incidents that have taken place. The normalisation of sexual harassment may mean that many students who were asked may not have realised that they have experienced sexual harassment or witnessed sexual harassment take place.
8. Although harassment disproportionately affects women, it can happen to anyone of any gender. Therefore, any plan of action should be gender neutral in its language and approach as all students should be free from harassment regardless of their gender.
9. That the Students' Union should dedicate itself to the safety and welfare of its students in the light of the NUS reports and other research.
10. The Students' Union has already worked on raising awareness of the Zero Tolerance policy, through use of television screens, promotional material and social media as well as emphasising the policy in Y Plas (formerly Solus) club nights and Freshers' Week. 'Guides' to the Zero Tolerance policy were also provided to all students who were moving into Residences in September 2014.
11. A lack of awareness of the Zero Tolerance policy can lead to students not reporting incidents of harassment. Similarly, if information on the Zero Tolerance policy, in both the Union and the University, is hard to find and/or difficult to understand, this may also act as a barrier to students reporting incidents.
12. We recognise that the Students Union already have a 'Behaviour and Disciplinary policy', which also covers the proposed changes. However, we believe having a separate and distinct policy is necessary to provide extensive support for students.
13. We recognise that the Student's Union have two campaigns: 'Can't touch this' and 'It's no joke', which both include harassment policies. However, we believe that the Student's Union would benefit from a separate and distinct policy relating to harassment.

AGM Resolves:

1. To continue to pursue the Zero Tolerance Harassment policy.
2. To extend the Zero Tolerance Harassment policy, so that it includes harassment of any nature, not just sexual.
3. To extend the remit of the Zero Tolerance Harassment policy, beyond the Student's Union building, to include groups that operate within the Union's framework, including the Guild of Societies, the Athletic Union, and Student Media.
4. To liaise with Cardiff University and the Students Union, to ensure that each of their policies are accessible to students.
5. To continue to provide a summary of the Students' Union Zero Tolerance policy and also the University's policy on the website and in promotional material.
6. To confirm or adjust our current disciplinary and complaints procedures so that they are in line with the Zero Tolerance policy, including possibly updating contact details.
7. For elected committee members of the Residences Associations to be informed of the University and Union Zero Tolerance policy in both the University and Union and how to signpost students to the right services and support.
8. For Students' Union staff to receive full training on the Zero Tolerance policy, including security. At least 50% of Students' Union staff and student staff ought to

receive training by September 2017. This training could be delivered internally or delivered by NUS.

9. To continue to raise awareness of the Zero Tolerance policy through social media, the Students' Union website and promotional material as well as holding events and delivering Equality and Diversity workshops to club and society committees.
10. To establish a Zero Tolerance policy pledge for students and Students' Union staff to sign online so that students and Students' staff can take a proactive stance on the policy. This has been very successful at Manchester University Students' Union as part of their 'We Get It' campaign.
11. To clarify in any promotional material, social media and training where students can go if they seek additional help and support (Student Support Centre, Student Advice in the Students' Union, Personal Tutor etc.)

Proposed by: Emily Broad

Seconded by: Oliver Canning

RESOURCES

1. National Union of Students (NUS) '*Hidden Marks*' report 2010:
http://www.nus.org.uk/Global/NUS_hidden_marks_report_2nd_edition_web.pdf
2. NUS '*Lad Culture and Sexism Survey*' August/September 2014: <http://www.nus.org.uk/en/news/nus-research-reveals-one-in-four-students-suffer-unwelcome-sexual-advances/>
3. Drinkaware '*Drunken nights out: motivations, norms and rituals in the night time economy*' report September 2014: <https://www.drinkaware.co.uk/check-the-facts/effects-on-your-safety/sexual-harassment#research>
4. Cardiff University Students' Union website summary of the Union's Zero Tolerance policy:
<http://www.cardiffstudents.com/your-voice/campaigning/zero-tolerance/>
5. Cardiff University's Procedures for the Resolution of Students' Concerns/Issues:
<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/regis/sfs/regs/1213acadregs/3.05%20-%20Procedures%20for%20the%20Resolution%20of%20Students%20Concerns,Issues%20-%20NO%20CHANGES.doc%202.pdf>
6. Protection from Harassment Act 1997, s4A s(1)(b)(ii)
7. Cardiff University's 'Dignity at Work and Study policy' which contains their Zero Tolerance policy:
<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/govrn/cocom/equalityanddiversity/dignityatwork/>

Manchester University Students' Union 'We Get It' campaign against sexual harassment, including the Zero Tolerance policy pledge: <http://manchesterstudentsunion.com/wegetit>

Sanitary Products

Submitted by: Kate Delaney

Passed by Student Senate 02.12.2014

Senate Notes:

1. Currently, female sanitary products such as tampons are taxed at 5% (VAT).
2. The tax is claiming that these products are 'non-essential'
3. Other items which are not taxed such as food and children's clothes are viewed as fundamental, whereas sanitary products are not
4. Contraception, on the other hand, can be accessed freely. The Students' Union itself provides free condoms and sexual health advice through SHAG for example.
5. Earlier this academic year, the University of East Anglia unanimously voted to mandate the Union to sell such products at the price of the cost of buying them in

Senate Believes:

1. Women should not have to pay to have their period
2. It is outdated and unethical so as a Students' Union, we should, when possible, make a stand on issues such as these.
3. The Union should also always prioritise the physical health of students and it would be detrimental to students should they either not use sanitary products or attempt to avoid the cost by using unsuitable ways to cope
4. Students, who are already likely to struggle with money, should not have to pay tax on these products that, without them, they would not be able to perform their studies. These are therefore essential products.

Senate Resolves:

1. The Students' Union should lobby to ensure that all relevant commercial outlets sell sanitary products not-for-profit in order to ensure that students can purchase these products as cheaply as possible
2. The Union should also lobby that all relevant commercial outlets make available more environmentally friendly and sustainable sanitary products at the reduced price.
3. The Union should install sanitary bins in all toilets in the Union and to lobby to do so across campus.

Increase awareness about carbon monoxide poisoning

Submitted by: Madhura Kanade
Passed by Student Senate 17.03.2015

Student Senate Notes:

1. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic gas. It is also colourless, odourless, tasteless, and initially non-irritating, making it very difficult to detect. CO combines with hemoglobin to form carboxyhemoglobin (HbCO) in the blood, preventing oxygen from being released into tissues and reducing the capacity of blood to transport oxygen.
2. Exposures at 100 ppm or greater can be dangerous to human health. Symptoms of mild acute poisoning will include light-headedness, confusion, headaches, vertigo, and flu-like effects.
3. Larger exposures can lead to significant toxicity of the central nervous system and heart, and even death. Chronic exposure to low levels of carbon monoxide can lead to depression, confusion, and memory loss. 4. Over 200 people are taken to hospital every year with suspected CO poisoning, which results in approximately 40 deaths.
5. The “Carbon Monoxide: From Awareness to Action” report was published in January 2015 by the All-Party Parliamentary Carbon Monoxide Group, highlighting the need to raise awareness around the issue, gather data and for focused efforts both at local and government level to ensure the safety of the UK population.
6. The “Household Safety (Carbon Monoxide Detectors) Bill”, proposed in 2014, is a bill to introduce a requirement that a functioning carbon monoxide detector must be installed in all newly built and all rented residential properties and for connected purposes. It is currently under review in the House of Commons.
7. There have been incidents in both UK and American universities of students suffering from CO poisoning due to leaks being found either in or near student residences.

Student Senate Believes:

1. It is important to ensure that students are made aware of the harmfulness of CO.
2. The Students’ Union, and in particular VP Welfare, should use the influence and the voice it has to raise awareness among students about the dangers of CO, as well as how to deal with a potential CO leak.
3. The vast majority of students will not ever face the issue of CO poisoning but for those who do, it is important that they are protected by their University.

Student Senate Resolves:

1. The Students’ Union should hold information sessions to increase awareness about the dangers of CO and arrange for nurses to come to the Union and show students how to spot if someone has CO poisoning; symptoms, physical signs etc.
2. VP Welfare should get involved in the promotion of CO awareness and to encourage and work with landlords and letting agencies to get CO detectors in student houses.
3. The Students’ Union should stock CO detectors in the Union shopping outlets and give students the opportunity to buy CO detectors from the Union if they want to.
4. VP Welfare should campaign to ensure the instalment of one detector per flat in all University-run residences.

References

All-Party Parliamentary Carbon Monoxide Group, “Carbon Monoxide: From Awareness to Action” report <http://www.policyconnect.org.uk/appcog/research/inquiry-behavioural-insights>
“Household Safety (Carbon Monoxide Detectors) Bill”
<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/householdsafetycarbonmonoxidedetectors.html>
<http://www.getreading.co.uk/news/local-news/students-warned-over-dangers-carbon-7969756>
http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2015/02/carbon_monoxide_problem_prompt.html
!
<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/carbon-monoxide-poisoning/Pages/Introduction.aspx>
<http://www.airqualitynews.com/2015/01/19/radical-step-change-urged-to-cut-carbon-monoxide-poisoning/>

Support for Student Parents

Passed by Student AGM 12/11/2015

AGM Notes

1. Cardiff University Students' Union does not have a clear, supportive stance regarding student parents.
 1. Cardiff University have produced the document "Policy and guidance on Support for Pregnant Students and Students who become parents, Feb: 2015". However, this document contains very little tangible support and, moreover, the Students' Union does not appear to have taken the recommendations of this policy on board.
2. Currently, there is no information on the Cardiff Students' Union website (www.cardiffstudents.com) for student parents, with the exception of contact details for Student Advice.
 - a. The Student Advice page does not specify what advice they provide, therefore a pregnant student, or student parent, may not be aware that this should be their first port of call.
3. The only information on Cardiff University's website (www.cardiff.ac.uk) is 'student support' information, which is very vague, and the limited daycare and creche facilities.
4. According to a 2004/05 DfS/NAW Research Report, it was estimated that 38% of part-time undergraduate students studying in Wales, and 6% of the full time student population, were student parents.¹
 - a. There is no requirement to audit how many students are parents, thus there is limited information regarding this figure.
5. Student parents are an at-risk group in terms of student retention, with 60% of survey respondents having thought about leaving their course. This rises to 65% for lone parents.²
6. One in ten student parents say they feel isolated as a student with children.³

AGM Believes

1. That students have the right to have children without putting their educational career in jeopardy.
2. That a child should not prevent students from completing their studies.
3. The university's current student parent policy states that "Cardiff University believes that becoming pregnant, adopting or caring for a child should not in itself be a barrier to applying for, starting or succeeding in a programme of study."⁴
4. In 2015 the typical cost of a full-time nursery place for a child under two is £199.42 per week in Wales: equivalent to over £10,000 a year.⁵
5. 77% of NUS survey respondents stated that they did not think it was easy to get involved with university or college life as a student parent.
 - a. When the NUS asked student parents what would help them to become more involved in student life, the most popular answer was 'child-friendly attitudes' (68%).
 - b. Over 50% of student parents would like support in place to allow them to meet other student parents; this rises to 64% for lone parents, and 71% for international students.
 - c. Only 14% felt that they had received sufficient information about childcare, and just 18% felt they had received enough information about their financial entitlements to make an informed decision about becoming a student parent.⁶

¹ National Centre for Social Research and Institute for Employment Studies (2006) The National Student Income and Expenditure Survey 2004–5. DfES Research Report.

² National Union of Students (NUS),. Meet The Parents. London: NUS, 2009. Web. 24 Oct. 2015.
http://www.nus.org.uk/global/nus_sp_report_web.pdf/

³ ibid

⁴ Cardiff University, Policy and guidance on Support for Pregnant Students and Students who become parents. Feb. 2015.

⁵ Family and Childcare Trust,. Childcare Costs Survey 2015. 2015. Web. 25 Oct. 2015.

<http://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/sites/default/files/files/Childcare%20cost%20survey%202015%20Final.pdf>

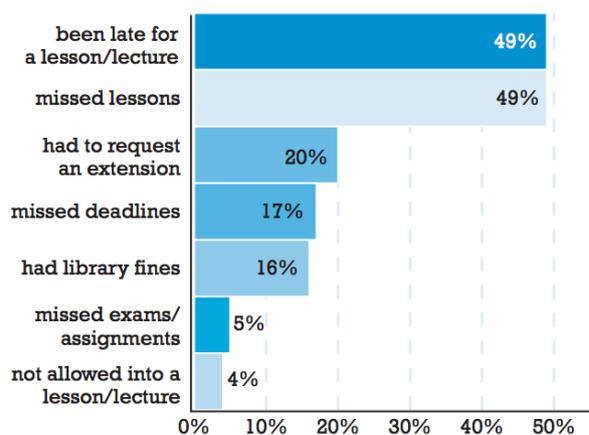
⁶ NUS Meet the Parents Report

- d. Student parents want information to be accurate and accessible, and to be provided before they start their course. 51% of respondents want their university or college to provide this information to them via their websites.⁷
 - e. 76% of respondents received no childcare funding at all and only 11% say they receive enough funding to cover their expenses.⁸
 - f. 77% of those who work said they do so to cover their basic living costs. 50% do so to avoid getting into debt.⁹
 - g. 54% had taken on debts, other than student loans, because their living costs exceeded their income; this rises to 61% for lone parents.
6. "Half of all students with children have been late for, or have had to miss, a class because of problems with childcare; 16% have received a library fine for the same reason. Lone parents are more likely to have missed lectures due to problems with childcare or child sickness."¹⁰
 7. Lone parents are the 'poorest' group; they are more likely to apply for hardship funds or take on additional debt, and are less able to work because of a lack of childcare support from a partner.¹¹
 8. Universities are not required to know the parental status of students¹²

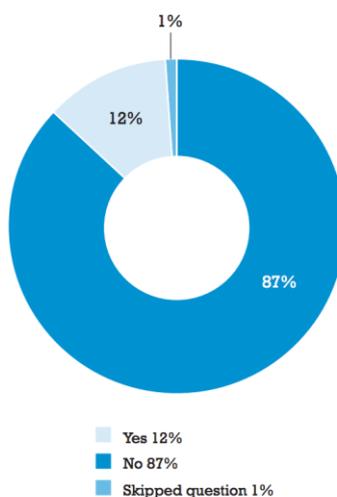
NUS Meet the Parents Report (http://www.nus.org.uk/global/nus_sp_report_web.pdf)

⁷ ibid
⁸ ibid
⁹ ibid
¹⁰ ibid
¹¹ ibid
¹² ibid

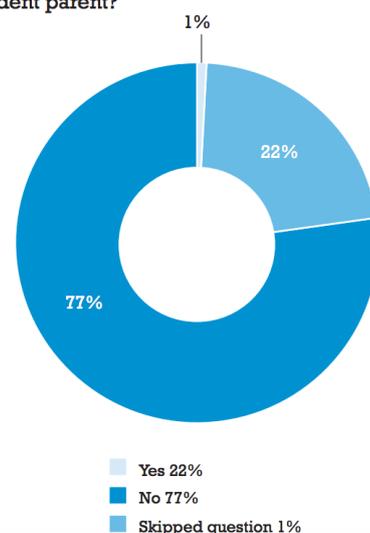
Survey question: Have any of the following things happened because of problems with your childcare?



Survey question: Did anyone at your university or college talk with you about childcare options before you started?



Survey question: Do you feel it is easy to get involved in university or college life as a student parent?



AGM Resolves

1. That Cardiff Students' Union should adopt 'child-friendly' practices, including establishing child-friendly areas in Union buildings and a programme of activities in which parents and their children can participate, as specified in the NUS policy.¹³
 - a. Child-friendly areas would include both university and union buildings having baby changing facilities, resource boxes/toys for children, and events suitable for children to attend or with a creche provided while their parents socialise.
2. To have a clearly signposted and bilingual section on the Students' Union website dedicated to providing information to student parents such as financial support, funding available, a network of student parents and child-friendly events.
3. That Cardiff Students' Union should support the development of networks of student parents, both online and in person, recognising the lack of time they have to establish these on their own.¹⁴
4. That Cardiff University Students' Union should collect data on the parental status of students in order to enhance their ability to provide support and be pioneers for supporting student parents.
5. To endorse the work of the full time and campaign officer team to support student parents, and to continue this work beyond their terms in office.
6. To further build upon and implement more effectively the action points identified in "Policy and guidance on Support for Pregnant Students and Students who become parents, Feb: 2015".
7. To make the Cathays and Heath Campuses more accessible for student parents.
 - a. Cardiff Students' Union should petition the university to implement pricing tiers at the creche in order to make it more accessible to student parents, not just staff.
 - b. To build upon the plans for a creche at the Heath Park Campus.
 - c. To make baby changing facilities available and easily accessible throughout the Students' Union and petition the University to have them in university buildings.
8. To raise awareness of the difficulties experienced by student parents at university.

¹³ ibid

¹⁴ ibid

Compulsory Mental Health Training for Personal Tutors & Research Supervisors

Passed by AGM 11/12/2015

AGM Notes:

1. At least one in four students experiences a mental health problem during their time at college or university.ⁱ
2. The University and the Students' Union have both signed the Time to Change Pledge which is public declaration that an organisation wants to step up to tackle mental health stigma and discrimination.
3. A comprehensive piece of research is already planned to be undertaken by Vice President Postgraduate Students and Vice President Welfare during academic year 2015/2016 on Postgraduate Research students wellbeing, to understand their needs.
4. The main source of support for students is provided through the University's Counselling, Health and Wellbeing Team who provide multiple services including daily drop-ins and scheduled counselling appointments to workshops and online chats.
5. Student-led services like Cardiff Nightline and Student Minds also provide support for students.
6. There is a University-wide Code of Practice for Personal Tutors which states; *"Personal Tutors will often be the first point of contact for students experiencing difficulties and an important part of the role is to listen and give advice in sensitive and appropriate manner, within the parameters of the Personal Tutor's experience and expertise"*ⁱⁱ
7. The Code of Practice for Personal Tutors states that part of the Senior Personal Tutors' role is to provide support for other tutors in difficult situations. They are the link between the school and the wider University Support services.
8. The Equality Challenge Unit's research on Mental Health in Higher Education found that *"student respondents spoke predominantly to academics, followed by staff in the counselling service and disability services, about getting support"*ⁱⁱⁱ
9. That same piece of research also recommended Mental Health First Aid Training and gives examples of a number of ways different Universities deliver this for example Imperial College London provides accredited mental health first aid training via one of the equality and diversity managers and many others have formed specific documents to address this issue^{iv}
10. Postgraduate Research Students are assigned at least two academic supervisors
11. When referring to Personal Tutors, this also includes Placement Tutors who are assigned to those learning on placement.

AGM Believes:

1. Supporting those students with mental health problems is extremely important to ensure that everyone can reach their potential
2. Those who need to talk about mental health problems should have access to support first hand in the shortest amount of time without being directed to multiple points of contact.
3. Providing mental health training to Personal Tutors/Research Supervisors will also contribute to the breakdown of stigma associated with mental health problems by spreading awareness and encouraging dialogue about the topic.
4. Although the Personal Tutor's prime role is to give academic support, as the above evidence states, they are often the first point of call for students on all matters beyond academia and thus they should be trained to encourage and support students to access professional help, as well as signpost them to the right place in an appropriate way.
5. Any mental health training for Personal Tutors/Research Supervisors should be compulsory for all, to ensure consistency across the University. This should include taught and research programmes.
6. If the majority of academic teaching staff are trained on dealing with students who have mental health problems, this would likely reduce the amount of time it takes for a student to receive the support they need.

7. The most appropriate academic staff for Postgraduate Students to undertake the training is their Research Supervisors due to high number of contact hours.
8. Pastoral care is an important role of Personal Tutors/Research Supervisors to ensure they are alerted to problems that might affect the student's ability to work effectively; particularly mental health problems.

AGM Resolves:

1. To mandate Vice President Welfare and Vice President Postgraduate Students to lobby the University on implementing regular compulsory mental health training for Personal Tutors and Research Supervisors
2. To mandate Vice President Welfare and Vice President Postgraduate Students to lobby for consistent mental health training across all programmes of study to ensure every student will be in contact with a member of academic staff who has experienced the training
3. To mandate Vice President Welfare and Vice President Postgraduate Students to lobby for revision of relevant policy concerning the role requirements of Personal Tutors and Research Supervisors

¹ [http://www.gofal.org.uk/uploads/Policy_documents/Student_toolkit/Gofal_NUSW -
SU_officer_briefing - WEB - Eng.pdf](http://www.gofal.org.uk/uploads/Policy_documents/Student_toolkit/Gofal_NUSW_-_SU_officer_briefing_-_WEB_-_Eng.pdf)

¹ <http://learning.cf.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/PT-Code-of-Practice.pdf>

¹ <http://www.ecu.ac.uk/publications/understanding-adjustments-mental-health/>

¹ <http://www.ecu.ac.uk/publications/understanding-adjustments-mental-health/>

Submitted by: Kate Delany

To provide support for a student-led Menstrual Products Donation Scheme (Periods in Poverty)

Passed by AGM 24/11/2016

AGM Notes:

- There is no funding for people who menstruate in hardship to obtain menstrual products. With limited or no access to sanitary products, people are often forced to go without. This is an unacceptable oversight.
- An online petition (<http://bit.ly/1CfmgW4>) calling on the Government to give shelters specific funding to buy tampons and sanitary towels has attracted more than 111,000+ signatures to date. This confirms that this is a topical issue and relevant to today's society.
- Homelessness— According to the Homelessness in Wales Report (2015-16), 1,275 Cardiff households were assessed as homeless, the highest in Wales. 41% of applicants found to be homeless and in priority need were female.
- Migrants & Refugees — The Census for Wales (2011) shows out that in Wales, Cardiff has the highest number of refugees who often face a unique set of challenges, often resulting in homelessness. Of the population of non-born UK residents, living in Wales, women make up 49.9%.
- Various Universities and community projects are already established and assisting in tackling this unmet need, such as Bristol University - 'No More Taboo' campaign, Durham University - Tampons & Towels Donation Drive 2016 – and outside of University, 'The Homeless Period' in London.

A questionnaire completed by students showed that:

- 100% of respondents stated they would donate and be more likely to donate, if a donation point was present.
- Students have identified they want the donations to go to refugee women, homeless women and others who menstruate, domestic violence survivors (through shelters), and food banks.

A selection of charities that work with homeless women and survivors of domestic violence (Llamau and Solas) have already shown support for the idea, and gratefully welcome the prospect of donations.

This AGM Believes:

That the SU should promote dignity for everyone.

That the SU should promote and facilitate a student led project focussing on directly tackling health inequalities at a local scale.

That the SU has a social responsibility to the local community, and that it has a commitment to supporting the local community.

That it is essential that Cardiff University and associated groups like the SU to foster a sense of voluntarism and community spirit among its staff and students.

That the SU should put pressure on Cardiff University's flagship projects to include women and people who menstruates' hardship, to keep it relevant to the local community's need.

This AGM Resolves:

That the SU Environmental and Ethical Officer and Women's Officer will co-ordinate with the Project's lead, to seek or lobby, for funding of the donation points, and overcome possible Estates and bureaucratic obstacles to insure the projects installation is successful.

That the project should have one donation point in each School, and the SU, in either female and gender neutral toilets, in place by March 2017.

That the SU will support students to initially co-ordinate charities and donations by means of providing materials and room hire. Once regular routines and roles are established the charities will take up the responsibility of picking up and distributing the donations, promoting the project's longevity and sustainability.

That this is a student-led initiative to promote dignity for everybody.

Proposed by: Fiona Munnelly – Women's Association

Seconded by: Jessica Martyn

Creation Of A Mental Health Part Time Campaign Officer

Passed by AGM 24/11/2016

AGM Notes:

- 1) Mental health is a state of wellbeing in which the individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully and is able to make a contribution to his or her own community. (World Health Organisation)
- 2) Current figures state that each year in Britain an estimated one in four adults will experience at least one diagnosable mental health problem, though only 230 of every 300 will actually visit their GP¹⁵
- 3) Mental health problems can affect the way you think, feel and behave. They affect around one in four people in Britain and range from common mental health problems, such as depression and anxiety, to more rare problems such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.¹⁶
- 4) A 2016 Time to Change survey of over 7,000 people living with mental health issues found that 64% were feeling isolated, 61% worthless and 60% ashamed of their condition. They explained they felt this way because of the stigma and discrimination they regularly face.¹⁷
- 5) In a 2009 report, it was found that women were almost twice as likely as men to suffer an anxiety disorder in England.¹⁸ However, the 2014 figures released by the Office for National Statistics show there were 6,122 suicides recorded in the UK. While 24% of these were female, 76% were male.¹⁹
- 6) In England, a survey discovered that those who registered with the NHS who described themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual were two to three times more

¹⁵ <http://www.counselling-directory.org.uk/stats.html>

¹⁶ <http://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/mental-health-problems-introduction/>

¹⁷ <http://www.time-to-change.org.uk/news/englands-biggest-ever-survey-state-stigma>

¹⁸ 2009. Prevalence, incidence, morbidity and treatment patterns in a cohort of patients diagnosed with anxiety in UK primary care. *Family Practice*, 27(1), (p.9-16).

¹⁹ <http://www.samaritans.org/news/womens-suicide-rates-rise>

likely to report having emotional or psychological problems compared with those who described themselves as heterosexual²⁰

- 7) A 2008 study that explored the association between social/economic factors, economic status, mental problems and ethnicity, discovered that among adults between the ages of 16 and 64, Black African and Black Caribbean groups typically had double the chance of experiencing psychotic disorders compared with White British groups. The same results were found when observing different socio-economic statuses²¹

- 8) The definition of mental health as a disability is recognised in UK law as: *'A mental health condition is considered a disability if it has a long-term effect on your normal day to day activity. This is defined under the Equality Act 2010. Your condition is long term if it lasts, or is likely to last 12 months. 'Normal day to day activity' is defined as something you do regularly in a normal day. For example using a computer, working set times or interacting with people'* ²²

- 9) A 2013 major NUS survey with 1,093 students discussing mental health on behalf of the all-party parliamentary group (APPG) showed²³:
 - 78 percent of respondents said they believe they have experienced mental health problems in the last year, (whether diagnosed or undiagnosed).
 - 87 per cent have felt stress; 77 per cent have suffered anxiety; and, 69 percent have felt depressed in the last year.
 - 33 per cent have had suicidal thoughts – around double the figure (17%) for the general population. Of respondents who did not identify as heterosexual, 55% reported suicidal thoughts.

- 10) In the 2013 survey students identified course deadlines (65%), exams (54%) and financial difficulties (47%) amongst the main triggers of mental distress

- 11) In the 2013 survey, problems with access and awareness of support services were recognised with:
 - 54% of respondents who reported having experiencing mental health problems said they did not seek support
 - A third said that they did not know where to get mental health support from their college or university if they needed it
 - 40% reported being nervous about the support they would receive from their institution

²⁰ Guasp, A. (2012). Gay and Bisexual Men's Health Survey.

²¹ Kirkbride, J.B. et al. (2008). Psychoses, ethnicity and socio-economic status.

²² The Equality Act 2010

²³ [https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/2161132/APPG%20on%20Students%20-%20December%20-%20Speaker%20briefing%20-%20Mental%20Health%20\(002\).pdf](https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/2161132/APPG%20on%20Students%20-%20December%20-%20Speaker%20briefing%20-%20Mental%20Health%20(002).pdf)

- 12) In the 2013 survey, the NUS found that 58% of students who experienced mental distress told their friends, compared to 48% who told their family members. 15% who told their GP and 10% who sought support from their university's counselling services.²⁴

- 13) The number of clients at the Counselling Service at Cardiff University has doubled from 2006-2013, demonstrating a rise in demand for the services, also taking into account the system change to allow more students to be seen. ²⁵

- 14) In 2013, Cardiff Students Union signed the 'Time To Change pledge'. This was a commitment to work towards the campaign goals of the charities Mind and Rethink Mental Illness. The Time to Change pledge is a public statement of aspiration that an organisation wants to tackle mental health stigma and discrimination. The pledge is not a kite mark or accreditation, and is not an endorsement by Time to Change, but the pledge does involve organisations taking some meaningful action that will lead change. ²⁶

Cardiff Students Union's action plan has been to 'raise awareness about mental health, encourage open discussion, reduce stigma, and improve mental health support for students at Cardiff University.' This is worked towards by the VP Welfare, Students Minds, University Wellbeing Champions and the Disabilities campaign officer.

Every year, the elected officer for VP Welfare has strived to put mental health as the forefront of their campaigns. Events that they are hoping to plan this academic year in mental health campaigns include Mind Your Head Week, Men's Health Day, Tea and Talk, winter campaign, mental health talk evenings, eating disorders week. Also on the exec team, two people have been assigned specific roles in mental health, helping to plan and run campaigns.

The Disabilities campaign officer represents all those who have a physical, learning and mental disability and campaigns on the relevant issues at hand. The Disabilities Officer helps to lead the direction of these issues, collaborating with the VP welfare and getting involved in the different campaigns around the university.

²⁴

<https://www.nus.org.uk/Global/Campaigns/20130517%20Mental%20Distress%20Survey%20%20Overview.pdf>

²⁵ Cardiff Students Union policy book, P17

²⁶ Cardiff Students Union policy book, P15

AGM Believes:

- 1) Creating a Mental Health campaign officer will help to further enhance mental health as an important issue, which should be treated specifically and alongside the activities of the existing disabilities officer to support those with physical, learning and mental disabilities.
- 2) The position will show the students union recognises mental health as an issue not specifically defined to a set group of people, but a larger concern that has the potential to affect everyone, at any point, through the course of any member of the student body's degree at Cardiff University.
- 3) The Mental Health campaign officer will ensure the Disabilities officer can also give priority and focus to other campaigns in key areas such as physical and learning disabilities, as well as coordinating efforts on that of mental health. This would essentially be similar to that of the LGBT+ association which has two campaign officers to give a form of devolved representation to self-defining women within the LGBT community, alongside the operations of the Open LGBT officer. Yet the disabilities officer role would not be changed, keeping a general focus on all relevant areas, leaving no group unrepresented.
- 4) This position would guarantee consistency within Cardiff Students Union's focus on mental health which would be vital in the event that a future VP Welfare chose to focus on other areas of student wellbeing.
- 5) The function of this position would work towards:
 - Aiding the VP Welfare in coordinating campaigns and events surrounding mental health
 - Working with the full-time elected officers to help to feedback views and concerns from the student body to the union as a whole
 - Collaborating with other student groups such as student minds, wellbeing champions, nightline student senators and part-time campaign officers to keep a strong open dialogue between the groups, ensuring strong communication and coordination of resources.
 - Ensuring the union works closely with different mental health charities in various national campaigns and keeping awareness of the support these charities offer.
 - Providing a face for Cardiff Student Union's mental health operations allowing it to take a forefront in student discussion and be a vital representative of Cardiff's existing and future efforts to support student's mental wellbeing.

AGM Further Believes:

- 1) Creating this position helps Cardiff Students Union to continue in working towards improving the representation and support for students who come across a mental health issue during their time at university, working alongside the Time To Change pledge goals. One of the crucial goals relating to this is that the Union ‘assesses the needs of students and ensures that they are responding to any changing circumstances’.²⁷ With data showing students are not always aware of support services, nervous to seek support and more likely to turn to a friend first, it is more crucial than ever that the union continues to work towards breaking down any barriers which prevent students from seeking help.²⁸
- 2) The position will provide students with a representative who actively engages with mental health throughout the academic year, working alongside the union support structures and the many other student groups to advance the unity in efforts to tackle mental health.
- 3) This will show the students union as continuing to innovate the ways it represents and supports those with mental health issues, ensuring that all student issues can be effectively represented and tackled by Cardiff Student’s Union.

AGM Resolves

- 1) To create another part-time campaign officer alongside the Disabilities officer, as the “Mental Health Campaign Officer”. This officer will represent those who suffer from mental health as a focused remit in their job, as well as the broader liberation campaigns aimed at disabilities as a whole. They will work closely with the Disabilities officer, relevant student groups and VP welfare. Their aim would be to raise awareness about mental health amongst the student body and to encourage open discussion that can reduce stigma surrounding mental health. This will work towards building a strong supportive environment at Cardiff University for all student’s mental wellbeing and disabilities.

²⁷ Cardiff Students Union policy book, P19

²⁸ [https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/2161132/APPG%20on%20Students%20-%20December%20-%20Speaker%20briefing%20-%20Mental%20Health%20\(002\).pdf](https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/2161132/APPG%20on%20Students%20-%20December%20-%20Speaker%20briefing%20-%20Mental%20Health%20(002).pdf)

- 2) For the Students Union to consult with various figureheads as to the precise nature and function of this role, ensuring that it works within its current structures and is relevant in advancing the Union's efforts in achieving its aims.

- 3) For the elected officer team to create an adequate job description and strong support network for the prospective part time elected officer during the next election cycle of 2017.

Proposed by: Chiron Hooson
Seconded by: Scott Place

Humanist Chaplain in Cardiff University

Passed at Student Senate 24/01/17

Student Senate notes:

1. Two-thirds of young people and half of the population as a whole do not belong to any particular religion, and the steady decline in religiosity in the UK is set to continue, the 28th report of the British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey has found.
2. Following note 1, it is fair to assume that a large, if not a majority of the student population are non-religious.
3. A third of Humanist of membership of The British Humanist Association is young people.
4. There currently Humanist Chaplaincies in Glasgow Caledonian University (Mandy Evans Ewing) and University of Edinburgh (Tim Maguire).
5. Students of non-religious persuasion are still as vulnerable as their religious student counterpart, but currently lack the secular spiritual counsel to assist them.

Student Senate Believes:

1. The University should provide service Humanist Chaplain to aid students ranging from existential issues to moral dilemmas.
2. Non-religious students may feel uncomfortable using the service of religious chaplains due to their theological viewpoints and may receive the same as their religious student counterparts.
3. A Humanist Chaplain would add to the diversity of the Chaplaincy, allowing a greater and more accurate representation of the student populace.

Student Senate Resolves:

1. Supports, encourages and desires all efforts to have a Humanist Chaplain within Cardiff University.

Submitted by: Usman M. Bukhari

Seconded by: Sara Al Sayed

Time to Change Pledge Renewal

Passed at Student Senate 24/01/17

Senate Notes:

- 1) 'Time to Change' is a campaign led by Mind and Rethink Mental Illness which are mental health charities. The Time to Change pledge is a public statement of aspiration that an organisation wants to tackle mental health stigma and discrimination.
- 2) The pledge is not a kite mark or accreditation, and is not an endorsement by Time to Change, but the pledge does involve organisations taking some meaningful action which is set out the student's union action plan in response to the pledge taken back in 2013.
- 3) A 2016 Time to Change survey of over 7,000 people living with mental health issues found that 64% were feeling isolated, 61% worthless and 60% ashamed of their condition. They explained they felt this way because of the stigma and discrimination they regularly face.²⁹
- 3) A 2013 major NUS survey with 1,093 students discussing mental health on behalf of the all-party parliamentary group (APPG) showed:
 - 78 percent of respondents said they believe they have experienced mental health problems in the last year, (whether diagnosed or undiagnosed).
 - 87 per cent have felt stress; 77 per cent have suffered anxiety; and, 69 percent have felt depressed in the last year.
 - 33 per cent have had suicidal thoughts – around double the figure (17%) for the general population. Of respondents who did not identify as heterosexual, 55% reported suicidal thoughts.³⁰
- 5) Other Students' Unions have signed the pledge including Oxford University Students' Union, Warwick University Students' Union and Nottingham University Students' Union.

Senate Believes

1. Mental health is an important issue for students and we should recognise the work achieved by the University and the Students' Union student led services and elected officers so far to support students' mental health and to improve support in the future.
2. 1 in 4 students suffer from mental health issues (statistic published by NUS)
3. The number of clients at the Counselling Service at Cardiff University has doubled from 2006-2013, demonstrating a rise in demand for the services, also taking into account the system change to allow more students to be seen.
4. 65% of clients who had been considering leaving the Cardiff University prior to counselling declared that counselling helped them to stay.

Senate Resolves:

1. That the Students' Union will renew the signing of the 'Time to Change' pledge.
2. To mandate the elected officers to continue working with the university in the various activities helping promote campaign's and works towards the pledge goals.
3. For the student's union to review the action plan formed back in 2013 and adapt the plan to the new support systems and developments today in the union as well as the university in tackling mental health.

Proposed by: Chiron Hooson

Seconded by: Emmaline Rice

²⁹ <http://www.time-to-change.org.uk/news/englands-biggest-ever-survey-state-stigma>

³⁰ [https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/2161132/APPG%20on%20Students%20-%20December%20-%20Speaker%20briefing%20-%20Mental%20Health%20\(002\).pdf](https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/2161132/APPG%20on%20Students%20-%20December%20-%20Speaker%20briefing%20-%20Mental%20Health%20(002).pdf)

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Policy Title	Body Approved by	Date Passed	Date Expires
Run a voter registration campaign targeted at students, ahead of the 2015 general election	Student Senate	11/02/2014	11/02/2017
“The Welsh language is an opportunity, not a burden” Adopting NUS Wales' national Welsh language Charter	Student Senate	04/11/2014	04/11/2017
Divestment in Fossil Fuel	AGM	04/11/2014	04/11/2017
Palestine University Twinning Motion	AGM	27/11/2014	27/11/2017
Recognise the State of Palestine	AGM	27/11/2014	27/11/2017
Student Growing Space	Student Senate	02/12/2014	02/12/2017
Students not Suspects	Student Senate	03/02/2015	03/02/2018
Electronics Watch Better Integration of Overseas Students	Student Senate	17/03/2015 17/03/2015	17/03/2018 17/03/2018
Making Cardiff Council More Accessible to Students	Student Senate	28/04/2015	28/04/2018
We call upon the UK Government to re-instate the S4C funding	Student Senate	01/12/2015	01/12/2018

Against changes to funding for nursing and midwifery education	Student Senate	01/12/2015	01/12/2018
We call upon NUS Wales to invite the Green Party and UKIP to take part in the NUS Wales Conference Debate.	Student Senate	02/02/2016	02/02/2019
Challenge don't Censor	AGM	24/11/2016	24/11/2019
Stop Fuelling Hate	Student Senate	24/01/2017	24/01/2020
Put Liberation and campaigns at centre stage	Student Senate	24/01/2017	24/01/2020

Run a voter registration campaign targeted at students, ahead of the 2015 general election.

Submitted by: Harry Thompson

What's the issue?

One of the biggest electoral problems we have in Cardiff is low voter turnout among students. This isn't due to a lack of interest in politics - most students are intelligent and well-informed, but don't engage with politics on a day-to-day basis. This leaves a lot of students who would otherwise like to have their voice heard unable to vote on election day, due to not registering months in advance.

Why is this important to Cardiff students?

Student turnout really is exceptionally low. The biggest student ward, Cathays, has turnouts of around 15% at council elections. If we run a campaign - as we have done on the 5th February - encouraging students to vote, we could potentially get that figure to around 40-50% (turnout will be higher come 2015 anyway due to more media focus on general than council elections). Most students live in the Cardiff Central ward, where the sitting MP has a majority of 4500, likely to be reduced. This would make the student vote crucial to anybody seeking to be Cardiff Central's next MP, and they would therefore be far more likely to make student-friendly pledges.

What action should the Union take?

The Union should endeavour to get as many students registered as possible, through tactics similar to, but going further than, those used on National Voter Registration Day. This includes having set days where people volunteer to tell people the benefits of registering and ask them to fill in forms which the Union sends off for free. The Union could also make use of its emails to students, electronic signs within the Union, Facebook and Twitter pages. It would also be beneficial to have a permanent area in the Union (perhaps with one of the officers) where students could go to fill in a voter registration form. The benefit of this would be removing a lot of the cost and effort of registering for students, and allowing us to track how many students have registered so far. The Union should also have a set budget specifically for the 2015 General Election push. Officers should be mandated to do lecture talks on registering to vote. We should also look into the idea of the Student's Union being a polling station for Cathays.

“The Welsh language is an opportunity, not a burden” Adopting NUS Wales' national Welsh language Charter

Passed by Student Senate 04.11.2014

The Student Senate notes:

- The Welsh language is an official language in Wales in accordance with the Welsh Language Measure 2011 (Wales);
- Cardiff University is located in Wales' capital city and has some of the highest numbers of Welsh speakers amongst any university in the world. According to latest figures, 1,562 of students at this university are fluent in Welsh whilst 1,434 additional students have some Welsh language skills. This means that almost 3,000, or 11% of our students, have some ability in the Welsh language.
- In June 2014 Cardiff University published its revised Welsh Language Scheme. It was made clear in the Scheme that the Welsh and English languages should be treated equally, and how this principle will be achieved; (See a summary of the Scheme- Attachment 1)
- In the Annual Members Meeting 2013, Cardiff University Students' Union members voted in favor of creating a Bilingual Policy. Now that almost a year has past since that meeting, it must be noted that progress until now has been slow. However, it is encouraging to note that the creation of a Draft Policy has begun;
- In its Plan for 2014-17, Cardiff University Students' Union is committed to 'support the development of the Welsh language and Welsh culture';
- A full-time translator role has recently been created for the Union;
- The Students' Union, as an institution that receives over £400,000 from a public body (the annual grant by the University) is subject to the Welsh Language Measure 2011 (Wales), as soon as its standards are decided. The Welsh Language Commissioner may penalise institutions who fail to comply, with strict financial penalties as well as public criticism;
- During autumn 2013, the National Union of Students Wales held a wide consultation of students' experiences in Wales from the perspective of the Welsh language;
- The results of the survey were 'disappointing' according to Jacob Ellis, NUS Wales' Welsh Language Officer as the 'lack of Welsh language provision' within Welsh universities' students' unions was an obvious and consistent result from the responses;
- In reply to the consultation, NUS Wales' Welsh Language Committee set about creating a series of recommendations to implement on a national level with the aim of improving the current provision by ensuring consistency amongst Welsh students' unions;
- The recommendations were presented as a 'Welsh Language Charter' and following extensive consultation and amendments to the draft version, the final version of NUS Wales' Welsh Language Charter was agreed upon (See the Charter-Attachment 2);

- Research conducted by NUS Wales shows that the majority are in favor of improving the Welsh language provision in Wales' university student unions.
- Every students' union in Wales, including Cardiff University Students' Union, has by now received a copy of the National Welsh Language Charter. Swansea University Students' Union was the first to accept it in June of this year, with Aberystwyth University Students' Union agreeing to the Charter shortly afterwards in October. All of Wales' university unions are expected to follow their lead;
- This document came about as the result of efforts made by Welsh *students*; it doesn't represent more bureaucracy and it wasn't drawn up by some faceless quango or other. It's a demand by Welsh students for full equality from the students' unions in Wales that represent them.
- Whether the Charter is accepted or not, the same expectations are placed on the students' union on a statutory, corporate and institutional level to acknowledge the Welsh language's rightful place, and to make full provision to enable this to happen.

The Student Senate believes:

- The Union should be inclusive of all the students who are part of it, and in Wales' capital city, that means representing and providing for students in two languages; both Welsh and English;
- The recommendations made in the Charter are the minimum that Welsh students should expect from Cardiff University Students' Union, not the maximum.
- The Welsh language is one of NUS Wales' liberation groups; thus meeting the needs of Welsh language students is a basic equality and liberation issue in Wales.
- Accepting the Charter would be a continuation of the positive improvements that have been seen over the past few years in terms of improving Welsh language provision within the Union, and it would be a significant step on the long journey towards becoming a fully bilingual organisation.
- It would be a clear and positive sign of Cardiff University Students' Union's commitment to the Welsh language and to Wales, as well as supporting Cardiff University's aspiration to be a University for Wales and the world. (Refer to Cardiff University's Way Forward and its revised Language Scheme).

The Student Senate resolves:

- The Charter should be adopted and each of its recommendations should be actioned in turn, acknowledging that some of the recommendations are easier to carry out than others.
- Officers should be mandated to draw up a plan of action in order to meet the requirements of the recommendations.
- The recommendations made in the Charter should be given full consideration when drawing up the Union's Bilingualism Policy / Welsh Language Scheme.

Proposed: Steffan Bryn Jones, Welsh language Officer
 Seconded: Elliot Howells, SU President

Divestment in Fossil Fuel

Submitted by: Daniel Roberts

Issue:

Divestment is the act of removing money from a particular fund or asset; in essence, it is the opposite of investment. 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.

200 publicly-traded companies hold the vast majority of the world's proven coal, oil and gas reserves.

In just over a year, Fossil Free campaigns have emerged at over 46 different campuses and engaged over 15,000 students. The UK campaign has already had a major win, with the University of Glasgow announcing its intention to divest its £129 million endowment from fossil fuels.

Benefit:

As a Students' Union, we have made progressive and green aspirations a core element of our policies. We have been awarded gold status as part of the NUS green awards. Ensuring these policies are repeated at the university we attend is something we should have the ambition to do.

As students are the future of our society and the university exists primarily to educate us, investing in companies that put our world at risk can only be a negative.

Action:

The Students' Union should release a statement publicly supporting People and Planet's Fossil Free campaign, signed by the FTOs and the Ethical and Environmental Officer.

The Students' Union should request quarterly updates of the university's investment portfolio.

The SU President should lobby for and secure student representation on all university investment committees.

The Welfare Officer and the SU President should lobby the university to end all future investment in fossil fuel companies and divest from fossil fuel companies immediately.

Palestine University Twinning Motion

Passed by AGM 27.11.2014

This AGM Notes:

1. That the Universal Declaration of Human Rights promises equal right to all, including "Everyone has the right to education."³¹
2. That the Islamic University of Gaza (IUG) is the largest university in Palestine.
3. That the IUG is a member of the International Association of Universities, Community of Mediterranean Universities and others, and that it won many prestigious awards including the Galileo International Prize for optics amongst others.³²
4. That the IUG is an independent institution free of any political party or group strongholds over it.³³
5. The last operation of Israel on Gaza resulted in severe destruction of public infrastructure, especially the educational sector. Four universities, 146 UNRWA schools and an estimated 141 Government schools suffered severe damages in the recent war.
6. That Palestinian universities and educational institutions have a history of being the target of Israeli strikes. During a previous attack on Gaza, the IUG was targeted under the false rationale that it was being used as a weapons development centre; the allegations were thoroughly disputed by the United Nations Fact Finding Mission. The current massacre has seen IUG targeted under the same rationale, whilst other institutions were indiscriminately targeted.
7. That before its bombing in 2008, there were over 20,000 students at the IUG able to study with full resources.³⁴
8. That as Israel is the occupying force in Gaza and West Bank, Palestinians in the 'Occupied Palestinian Territories' are the victims of apartheid. Various significant political figures have said the same; Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a black South African leading activist in the ANC (African National Congress that lead the movement) said on his visit to the Holy Land, "it reminded me so much of what happened to us black people in South Africa", referring to the treatment of Palestinians in the hands of the Israeli state.
9. That international solidarity with students suffering from apartheid played an important role in the South African apartheid movement. The ANC Youth League (of which Nelson Mandela first joined) had a huge part in the campaign for freedom for Black and Indian South Africans, and today the ANC talk of the importance of international student cooperation. One example is of students around the world meeting at their own universities and gathering support and funds for those SA students.
10. That since 2007 Israel has imposed a blockade on Gaza barring people, goods, aid and much needed materials like cement for rebuilding damaged houses, from both entering and leaving Gaza.³⁵
11. That amongst other outcomes, this is having a detrimental impact on student life, from what we may call simple things like textbooks and paper barred from coming in to Gaza, to bigger problems, like the psychological effects suffered by many young Palestinians.³⁶ The humanitarian crisis also inevitably means that students are unable to carry on their studies due to illnesses that cannot be treated (over half of all hospitals in Gaza were bombed by the IDF during its assault. Patients cannot leave Gaza to receive treatment in Egypt or Israel where many would normally have gone) and students are also having to look after family members. Due to unemployment, which is a result of the blockade and bombing, parents can no longer afford to pay university fees for their children.³⁷

³¹ (The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26)

³² (www.iugaza.edu.ps/en)

³³ (www.iugaza.edu.ps/en)

³⁴ (www.iugaza.edu.ps/en)

³⁵ (BBC News: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7545636.stm)
(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/dec/21/israel-gaza-strip-middle-east>)

³⁶ (Medical Aid for Palestinians: www.map-uk.org)

³⁷ (<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3669379,00.html>)

12. That it is a commonly held British, and also universal principle that all people have the right to education. Nevertheless, simple and also important advantages and rights that we enjoy as students in the UK are constantly being violated for Palestinian students.³⁸

This AGM Believes:

1. That all people have the right to education (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26)
2. In the importance of solidarity and the difference that it makes to victims of war, apartheid and foreign blockades.
3. That international solidarity was an important factor in the struggle against South African apartheid and can also be in the new struggle against Israeli apartheid.
4. Thus it is our responsibility as Cardiff University students who live in a safe environment, and are more fortunate than many other students around the world, that we mobilise to support those students in the face of oppression and persecution, to help give them better chances at education as they deserve.

The AGM Resolves:

1. That Cardiff University twins with the Islamic University of Gaza as an act of solidarity for the damage done to the institution since the bombing, the current blockade on anything or anyone leaving or entering Gaza, and as solidarity to students who are victims of apartheid by doing the following:
 - i. To bring to the attention to heads of staff at CU the possibility of joint academic and scientific research between the two universities and teaching staff.
 - ii. Encourage Provide to communicate volunteering opportunities in the Palestinian Occupied Territories.
 - iii. Look at sponsoring exchange visits for teachers and students; one possible aim is short-term training, attending courses, conferences, workshops and seminars.
 - iv. To promote sponsoring subscription to limited online journals, databases, e-books or e-libraries to heads of library.
 - v. To consider the moral implications of existing and proposed links with Israeli academic institutions.
 - vi. To explore the possibility of offering distinguished needy students full or semi-full scholarships.
 - vii. To play a key role in promoting the Donate and Educate Campaign for Gaza displaced and homeless students.
2. That the principle and the Cardiff University management are told of this twinning project, and asked by the SU to support it.
3. That CUSU will publicise and support any academics and students who come on exchange visits to Cardiff University.
4. To lobby Cardiff University to formally twin with Gaza's largest university (IUG), and provide a physical recognition of and dedicated webpage to the partnership on the University website.
5. That the SU do what is possible to convey this twinning project to the wider community, for example through press releases, and informing other Student Unions.

Proposed by: Maryam Bham

Seconded by: Omar Kamal, Saleh Fahd, Fatimah AlHakeem, Farhan Zubair, Lara Judeh.

³⁸ (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/may/12/israelandthepalestinians.unitednation>)

Recognise the State of Palestine

Passed by AGM 27.11.2014

This AGM Notes:

1. That Cardiff University has been a destination for Palestinian students, with 30 Palestinian nationals and 17 with a Palestinian home address enrolled at Cardiff University over the last 10 years.
2. That on the 13th of October 2014, MPs of the British Parliament took part in a debate scheduled by the Backbench Business Committee on a motion relating to Palestine and Israel. MPs voted 274 to 12, to approve the amended motion: 'That this House believes that the Government should recognise the state of Palestine alongside the state of Israel, as a contribution to securing a negotiated two state solution.'
3. That as of 30th October 2014, 135 (69.9%) of the 193 member states of the United Nations have recognised the State of Palestine.
4. That other universities in the UK such as Durham University recognise Palestine and its academic institutions.
5. That the Gaza Strip has a population of 1.7 million people of whom 1.2 million are refugees from Israel.
6. That the Gaza Strip is 360 sq km in area, four times smaller than London.
7. That there is a naval, aerial and land blockade maintained by Israel over Gaza.
8. That over half of the population of Gaza are children with the majority of schools operating double shifts.
9. That in the recent war on Gaza in the summer of 2014, 2,139 Palestinians (most of them civilians, including more than 490 children) were killed in Gaza and 14,000 Palestinians were wounded. Israel's death toll stands at 64 soldiers and six civilians (Source: UN).
10. That according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), in the eight-day war on Gaza in November 2012, 140 Palestinians were killed, 1200 Palestinians injured (the majority of whom were civilians) and 5 Israelis.
11. That the Gaza massacre in the winter of 2008-09 claimed the lives of over a thousand Palestinians.
12. That according to the United Nations Relief and Work Agency (UNRWA), more than 300,000 Palestinians in Gaza were forced to take shelter in its schools during the recent war, and up to 500,000 Palestinians have been displaced by the conflict.

This AGM Believes:

1. That Cardiff University is a global university with interest in what goes on in the world.
2. That it is our moral and ethical duty to speak out for human rights and justice and not stand by silently.
3. That life in Gaza has become intolerable.
4. The recent deaths of civilians in Palestine and Israel were avoidable.
5. That Cardiff University should recognise the state of Palestine alongside the state of Israel, as a main contribution to ensuring all students are equal in dignity and rights.
6. That Cardiff University should add its voice to those of the numerous governments and institutions that support Palestinian statehood as an acknowledgment that only through recognition that Palestinians can have the dignity and hope that they need to engage in further negotiations and to live in a country that they can properly call their own.

7. That Palestinian statehood is in the interests of the people of Palestine and the people of Israel.
8. That we have a part to play in ending this cycle of violence in Palestine through campaigning and activism.
9. That all democratic bodies within the Union should have the ability to campaign for human rights and justice.
10. That an effective way to support Palestine is to firstly recognise the State of Palestine.
11. That Cardiff University must not withhold the birthright of Palestinian students as statelessness, displacement and exile continue to affect the lives of Palestinians.

This AGM Resolves:

1. To mandate Cardiff University's international office to enlist Palestine among endorsed international countries as a way of acknowledgment to its alumni, current and prospective Palestinian students.
2. That Cardiff University publicly announce the recognition of the state of Palestine, and provide a physical recognition of and dedicated webpage to the recognition on the University website.
3. That the SU acknowledge the plight of the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination; including an end to the murder of civilians, military occupation, house demolitions, settlement building, denial of the right of return of refugees and inhumane siege.
4. That the SU will publish a statement of support recognising the plight of the Palestinian people and condemning the current inhumane situation in Gaza.
5. That Cardiff University and its SU will promote, fund and support the discussion of international issues at every democratic body within Cardiff University including the Forums and Union Council.

Proposed by: Omar Kamal

Seconded by: Maryam Bham, Saleh Fahd, Fatimah AlHakeem, Farhan Zubair, Lara Judeh.

Student Growing Space

Submitted by: Emma Longhurst-Gent
Passed by Student Senate 02.12.2014

Issue:

There have been a number of attempts to secure places for students to grow their own fruit and veg such as the proposed allotment in the empty space at the front of the union. However due to decisions made at higher levels, the space was revoked from the allotment society despite significant progress already being made.

Waiting lists for allotments in Wales are around 4 years! There are a number of unused spaces in the Students Union that would be the perfect place for growing fruit and veg, the roof terraces in particular.

A funding bid has been made to Student Eats for money for tools, equipment and any adaptation to the building that would be needed.

Benefit:

With higher cost of food and growing concerns over where our food comes from, there is significant interest from students to create space to grow their own, and explore sustainable growing.

There is already a roof garden on the Geography and Planning building which has a lot of interest from student volunteers and we believe that a space on the Students Union would be an excellent place to attract more students and allow access for as many people who would like to help as possible.

Action:

1. Support the bid to Students Eats (Young Root programme of the Heritage Lottery Fund) for funding to create a sustainable growing space. This could include a letter of support from the elected officers.
2. Conduct a formal review of spaces in and around the Student Union (and university if possible) to find where would be the best place for growing space, with a particular focus on the roof terrace.
3. Work with student volunteers to set up a sustainable growing space.

Students not Suspects

Submitted by: Nadine Dahan
Passed by Student Senate 03.02.2015

Student Senate Notes:

1. -On 26 November 2014, the Home Secretary Theresa May introduced the Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill (CTSB) to Parliament highlighting some revised and new counter-terrorism powers that would be placed on a statutory basis.
2. -That CTSB seeks to make the controversial the Prevent and Channel strategies statutory.
3. -That academics and campaigners fear the CTSB will criminalise ideas and create a culture where students are unwilling to speak out.
4. -The National Union of Students have condemned the Counter terrorism and Security bill and described the Prevent strategy and Channel policies as “further developing a culture of suspicion and surveillance on campuses, whilst also potentially conflicting with institutions’ duties to promote freedom of speech, by making them overly risk-averse and unwilling to engage in important topics of discussion.”
5. -That Universities UK has expressed concerns about academic freedom in their parliamentary briefing on the counter terrorism and security bill.
6. -That the Prevent strategy guidance in 2011 stated that university staff, lecturers and chaplains to report to the police any Muslim students who are isolated or depressed.
7. -The Prevent strategy currently exists and operates on most university campuses.
8. -That Islamophobia has been on the rise in the UK and mainland Europe over the last decade.
9. -That a vote on whether to make the counter-terrorism policy known as the Prevent strategy into legislation takes place on the 29th January.
10. -That according to the current Prevent Strategy, potential indicators of “radicalism” or “extremism” include:
11. “A need for identity, meaning and belonging.”
12. “A desire for political or moral change.”
13. “Relevant mental health issues.”
14. -That through the PREVENT strategy, universities will be legally responsible for the ideologies of their students.
15. -That the Prevent Strategy has been widely criticised for demonising Muslim students on campus.
16. -That on university campuses PREVENT strategy enables the possibility of a No Platform policy being extended to any member deemed “radical” or “extreme” by the university, with no consultation.

Student Senate Believes:

1. -That students are not suspects.
2. -That students should be offered help and not victimised for suffering from mental health issues.
3. -That rushed laws are often ill thought out and poorly scrutinised.
4. -That any expectation by the state for academic staff to be involved in monitoring under the CTB their students is deeply worrying, and could have a chilling effect on relations between staff and students.
5. -That the CTSB could serve to isolate many students who already feel that the only avenue through which the Government will engage them is ‘anti-radicalisation’ initiatives, resulting in further alienation and disaffection.
6. -The Counter Terrorism and Security Bill discourage free expression and analysis of ideas. Academics, as well as anyone in a public sector job, should not have to be part of this surveillance.
7. -The implementation of the Prevent strategy on campus will not only isolate Muslim students but undermine the civil liberties of other groups such as environmental, political and humanitarian activists.
8. -The monitoring and exclusion of ideas from public debate opposes the basic function of

universities; introducing students to a variety of opinions and encouraging them to analyse and debate them.

9. -The policy significantly undermines the freedom and activities of university staff and students.
10. -Our public services (i.e. hospitals, schools, universities, prison services) should exist to serve the general public and not be used against the very people it exists to serve.

Student Senate Resolves:

1. -That CUSU support an enquiry into the legality of the proposals under the Equality Act 2010 and the Education Act No. 2 1986.
2. -That CUSU should issue a public statement condemning the Prevent strategy and the government's counter terrorism and security bill.
3. -For CUSU to work with campus trade unions on combating the Prevent strategy and lobby them to condemn the Counter terrorism and Security bill.
4. -To mandate the Student officers to lobby the university to be more open and transparent about how they are engaging with PREVENT, CHANNEL and other similar initiatives. This involves:
5. -Demand publications of how the policy is operating within the University and Student's Union.
6. -This includes access to materials used to train staff and students.
7. -Hold consultations with the student body regarding how this affects students.
8. -That CUSU and the student officers will not engage with the Prevent strategy.
9. -That CUSU will educate students on the dangers of the counter terrorism and security bill and the Prevent Strategy.
10. -That the CUSU NUS delegation will take a motion condemning the Counter terrorism and security bill to NUS National conference 2015.

Electronics Watch

Submitted by : Daniel Roberts

Passed by Student Senate 17.03.2015

Issue:

Electronics Watch is an independent organisation which aim will be to monitor working conditions in the global electronics industry to enable socially responsible public purchasing in Europe.

The electronics industry is one of the fastest growing global industries with an expected yearly growth of 7% between 2013 – 2015.

Universities and public institutions spend millions of pounds on electronics equipment every year.

Currently, there is no comprehensive, credible and independent monitoring system for the electronics industry that involves workers and local civil society organisation.

Abuses of workers rights are widespread in the electronics industry.

Benefit:

By campaigning alongside workers in factories around the world, we can help prevent workers' rights abuses and improve the conditions which people face on a daily basis.

The aim is to set up Electronics Watch and run it by mid-2015. Universities are important public purchasers who have huge symbolic and financial influence - our students should do everything we can to hold it to account.

Action:

- 1) Students should lobby the university to affiliate to Electronics Watch
- 2) To mandate all students representatives who sit on the purchasing committees to push for more ethical and more sustainable electronics equipment from university procurement managers, and to push for greater student representation on these committees.

Better Integration of Overseas Students

Submitted by: Lowri Pritchard
Passed by Student Senate: 17.03.2015

Senate Notes

1. Many overseas and Erasmus students feel excluded as they are struggling to integrate with home students.
2. The University is promoting itself internationally, so in order to ensure that all students make the most out of their University experience, this problem needs to be addressed.
3. Informal conversation groups are ongoing with MLANG, but this excludes students from other schools.
4. The Languages for All Scheme teaches languages to students, but doesn't give them an opportunity to practice the skill they are acquiring outside the class room.
5. The Erasmus Society does an excellent job at introducing Erasmus students to each other, but there is no International equivalent.

Senate Believe

1. Improvement of student satisfaction for overseas students is likely to improve the overall satisfaction of students.
2. No particular group in the student body should find it more difficult to integrate than others.
3. Cultural exchanges are integral to broadening knowledge of other cultures and tolerance.
4. Those learning languages and those participating in the Languages for All Scheme should be helping students who speak the language they're learning to integrate, as well as practicing their language skills outside the classroom.
5. Those benefiting from conversation classes in MLANG should also be helping the Erasmus students who participate to integrate.
6. There should be an International Society helping a broad spectrum of international students to meet each other.

Senate Resolves

1. VP Societies to liaise with language based societies in order to set up a Language Exchange Programme. Overseas, Erasmus and home students would choose a society to organise their pairing based on the languages they speak. The appropriate society would then act as an intermediary between the two, by giving each student the others' contact details.
2. The Student's Union should hold an event where students participating in the scheme would meet their language buddy.
3. For those studying a language and those enrolling on the Languages for All Programme participation should be encouraged by the module leaders.
4. The University should aim to organise more events that celebrate cultural diversity.
5. VP Societies to suggest an International Society to the International Students Association. International students should be able to nominate the home student they were partnered with for a prize in order to market the scheme and to encourage the participation of those who are enrolled.

Making Cardiff Council More Accessible to Students

Submitted by: Jake Smith
Passed by Student Senate: 28.04.2015

Senate Notes

1. The Cathays electoral ward is represented by 4 elected councillors on Cardiff Council.
2. Full time students make up 69.9% of the 16-74 population of Cathays. The vast majority of these students will be Cardiff University students. Students of Cardiff Metropolitan University and the University of South Wales are largely resident in other parts of the city.
3. All Cardiff Council Councillors hold surgeries in their electoral wards where residents can come to them to raise issues in the local community and lobby the Council to take action. These are often held in local community centres or similar.
4. Cardiff Council has extensive powers in areas such as landlord and letting agent regulation, the provision of public transport, parking and road design, public amenities and venues which are used by societies, local parks and culture, Libraries and community regeneration.
5. On November 24th 2014 Cardiff University Students Union hosted a surgery in Y Plas where students could speak directly to Councillors representing Cathays.
6. Voter turnout in Local Government elections is low amongst the general population and lower still amongst the student population.

Senate Believes.

1. That the student population of Cardiff is an undeniable economic benefit to the city and contributes to Cardiff's reputation as a vibrant, diverse and enterprising city.
2. That all Cardiff Councillors should endeavour to represent all their constituents and make themselves accessible to all sections of the community.
3. That students are less likely to attend the traditional venues for Councillor surgeries, and would be more likely to use their rightful voice in their community if the Students Union made it as convenient as possible for students to meet their Councillors in the Students Union building.
4. That Cardiff Council's responses to community issues in student areas and its long term planning for the city at large would benefit from Councillors representing student areas engaging students more by becoming more accessible.
5. That beyond the immediate benefit to students of potentially having the issue they raise with their Councillor resolved, greater engagement with local representatives should encourage student voter turnout in local government elections and elections at other levels.

Senate Resolves.

1. For the Students Union President to encourage the Cardiff Councillors representing the Cathays, Roath and Heath electoral ward to hold drop in surgeries in a Students' Union Space.
2. Recognising the work load of Councillors and the demands on their time from their other surgeries the Students Union should endeavour to facilitate at least one Councillors surgery per ward per semester. This would amount to three student surgeries per academic year. This policy should come into effect from the start of the 2015-16 academic year.
3. The Student Drop-in Sessions should be informal with students able to go in during an advertised time period. That the long term viability of this policy should be reassessed at the end of the 2015-16 academic year.
4. The Students Union should promote the surgeries to students using social media, electronic posters and by its inclusion in the regular all student emails, providing information regarding the issues students may find useful to raise with their Councillors such as housing.

Notes.

The City of Cardiff Council [homepage-https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/CYM/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/CYM/Pages/default.aspx)

2011 Census data on the demographics of the Cathays -
http://www.askcardiff.com/ObjView.asp?Object_ID=25020&Language=

2011 Census data for other areas of Cardiff -
http://www.askcardiff.com/content.asp?nav=2872,3257,6571,6572&parent_directory_id=2865&id=14001

Divestment

Passed by AGM 11/12/15

AGM Notes:

1. Freedom of information requests have revealed that Cardiff University continues to invest and profit from over £2m in the fossil fuel industry, part of a £5.2b total investment by UK colleges and universities.
2. That the fossil fuel industry poses possibly the greatest existential threat to humanity ever known, in that it has caused unknowably vast short and medium term harm to biodiversity and vulnerable ecosystems, that it is a key driver of long-term anthropogenic global warming, and that the vast political and economic influence of the industry on domestic and international energy policy has significantly harmed the progress of renewable and low-carbon alternatives. The dangers that unfettered fossil fuel consumption pose to humanity cannot - and must not - be understated.
3. That previous motions in the Student Senate have not produced any substantive change, and that as such, more meaningful and better-coordinated action is required.

AGM Believes:

1. Students at Cardiff have shown time and again that they are passionate about the environment. Ongoing discussions with students and societies have shown that we, the members of this Students Union, oppose the use of our tuition fees in funding the fossil fuel industry and participating in the destruction of our planet.
2. That we can join other universities, such as Warwick, SOAS, Glasgow, and Surrey, that have already taken the bold step to fully divest from fossil fuels, whilst also paving the way for future change by becoming the first university in Wales to do so. This will cement our reputation as a world-leading university and Students Union, as well as materially contributing to combating climate change.
3. If action is not taken to reduce carbon emissions then the agreed warming over 2 degrees since industrial times will be reached and affect our generation specifically, therefore our students need to have a voice and have an influence on this issue.
4. We also have a responsibility to protect future students, which the continued investment in fossil fuels by the University is undermining.

AGM Resolves:

1. For the Student's Union to write an open letter to the Vice-Chancellor of the University in support of Divestment, the wording of which is to be subject to input from the student body and the appropriate Officers.
2. For the elected officers to directly and immediately lobby the University and its appropriately senior staff to ensure its commitment to ethical divestment as a matter of high priority, fully utilising their access to committees within the University, and their resources in the SU. Their progress in this shall be reported regularly to the Scrutiny Committee.
3. For the SU to also use their resources to publicly oppose Cardiff University's continued investment in the fossil fuel industry, using social media, print media, advertising campaigns, and all other appropriate avenues. The SU shall also increase use of these means to advertise and promote the efforts of student-led movements wherever possible.
4. To ensure that the Students' Union must also practice what it preaches. It shall commit to reducing their own emissions, which shall be achieved via consultation with the Ethical and Environmental Officer, the Full-Time Officer team, and the student body as a whole.
5. For the Ethical and Environmental Officer to establish and maintain a committee of appointed students from relevant disciplines, which shall publicly and regularly report its

progress to the student body in accessible formats. Their progress in this shall also be reported regularly to the Scrutiny Committee.

Submitted by: Daniel Tucker

We call upon the UK Government to re-instate the S4C funding

Passed by Student Senate 1/12/15

Senate Notes.

1. George Osborne's Autumn Statement announced further funding cuts from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport from the present level of £6.7m to £5m by 2019-20. (This is a 26%)
2. Huw Jones, Chairman of the S4C Authority, said: "The decision to reduce the funding S4C receives from central government is disappointing, particularly as the reduction is substantially greater than the overall reduction which the department has received.
3. At the moment, S4C receives approximately 90% of its funding through the licence fee and the Secretary of State has suggested that S4C should implement savings in proportion to those which the BBC is expected to implement.
4. Huw Jones, Chairman of the S4C Authority, said: "It is inevitable that cuts of this nature will have implications for the range and diversity of the service that we provide and for our ability to take advantage of new opportunities."
5. Jamie Bevan, Chair of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, said the Conservatives had broken a manifesto pledge to "safeguard the funding and editorial independence of S4C"
6. In 2010, the Government announced a cut to its grant to S4C of 94% over four years from £101 million in 2010-11 down to £7 million in 2014/15.
7. The above cuts are in relation to direct grants given by UK Government and not in relation to BBC licence fee or commercial income.
8. The BBC and S4C financial relationship will be discussed during the BBC Charter renewal next year.
9. Some University students currently work part-time with S4C and contracted companies.
10. The Conservatives committed the following statement in the manifesto;

"We would protect and promote the Welsh language – Welsh Conservatives believe in protecting and promoting the Welsh language. We would safeguard the funding and editorial independence of S4C. We would promote the National Eisteddfod on the global stage."

Senate Believes.

1. Broken manifesto commitments are unacceptable
2. S4C provides an invaluable service for Welsh speakers, learners and Non-Welsh speakers here in Wales, the UK and Internationally.
3. There are circa 1,500 students who are fluent at Cardiff University
4. There are circa 1,500 students who are not fluent but have some skill at Cardiff University
5. All must be done to prevent cuts to the S4C budget
6. Further cuts could damage scholarships, training, internship and work experience opportunities given to students
7. Further cuts could damage employment opportunities for those wishing to work through the Welsh medium or the Media Industry in Wales.
8. The University and Union values the department of JOMEK (Journalism, Media and Culture) and the School of Welsh and the important relationship it has with S4C and other media platforms.

Senate Resolves.

1. For the union to send a letter to the Welsh Government to call on UK Government to re-instate full financial commitment to S4C.
2. For the Union to send a letter to the UK Government to call on them to re-instate full financial commitment to S4C.
3. For the Union to lobby and work with NUS Wales to lend it's support to the national campaigns to secure the future of S4C.
4. For the Union to seek legal advice on resolves 1 and 2 in order to ensure the union is responding adequately to the resolves.

Notes:

http://www.s4c.cymru/media/media_assets/s4c-edrych-ir-dyfodol.pdf

<http://www.theguardian.com/media/2010/oct/19/bbc-licence-fee-frozen>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-34894481>

Submitted by Steffan Bryn

Against changes to funding for nursing and midwifery education

Passed by Student Senate 1/12/15

Student Senate notes:

1. Nursing and midwifery students in the UK currently receive free education at university. Tuition fees are paid directly by the NHS. Students are able to receive a bursary of at least £1000 per year paid by the NHS and this bursary may increase on means testing allowing student parents or those from low income families to study. Student nurses and midwives are also eligible to apply for a maintenance loan which is a reduced loan due to all students receiving at least £1000 annually of non-repayable funding³⁹.
2. Student nurses and midwives are eligible to apply for funding irrespective of any previous higher education study or funding.
3. The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) regulate the professions and set the standards for education that must be met prior to initial registration. Students must currently achieve 2,300 hours of theoretical learning in university and 2,300 hours of learning on clinical placements⁴⁰. This equates to forty hours a week spent on timetabled activity in the classroom or on placement based learning.
4. The full time nature of the course makes it difficult for students to be able to work part time in addition to their studies. Students with other commitments such as childcare may find it even more of a challenge to work.
5. In 2013/14 and 2014/15 academic years students from the School of Healthcare Sciences (formerly the school of healthcare and the school of nursing and midwifery studies) were the largest group of students to receive support from the Financial Contingency Fund. The average award to these students was £628 in 2013/14 and £674 in 2014/15 (appendix I).
6. According to the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), the average age of student nurses is 29⁴¹.
7. The Chancellor has announced an end to free nurse education in England with future student nurses and midwives being expected to obtain student loans for fees and maintenance loans. These changes will not impact current students or those in 2016/17 and there is now a period of consultation on how the proposed changes will work⁴². NUS President Megan Dunn has said: “The axing of bursaries for student nurses is disgraceful. It is crucial that healthcare students are not deterred from courses because of huge loans, especially when many will already have substantial debt from previous degrees. 50 percent of student nurses have children, and will naturally be more cautious when it comes to taking on extra debts.”⁴³
8. A petition has been set up to the government opposing these changes. At the time of writing there have been over 130,000 signatures⁴⁴

Student Senate believes:

³⁹ NHSBA. *Student Bursaries* [Online] <http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/816.aspx> accessed 26.11.2015

⁴⁰ NMC 2010. *Standards for pre-registration nursing education*. [Online] <http://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/nmc-publications/standards-for-pre-registration-nursing-education-16082010.pdf> accessed 26.11.2015

⁴¹ Guardian online. *George Osborne considers axing student nurse bursaries* 21.11.2015 [Online] <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/nov/21/george-osborne-considers-axeing-student-nurse-bursaries> accessed 21.11.2015

⁴² HM Treasury. *Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015: documents* 25.11.2015 [Online] <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015-documents> accessed 26.11.2015

⁴³ NUS. *NUS responds to cuts in government's spending review* 25.11.2015 [Online] <http://www.nus.org.uk/news/press-releases/nus-responds-to-cuts-in-governments-spending-review/> accessed 26.11.2015

⁴⁴ Petitions.gov. *Keep the NHS Bursary* 24.11.2015 [Online] <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/113491> accessed 26.11.2015

1. Despite education and health being devolved issues, and proposed changes only affecting those studying in England we are part of a national movement and oppose increased educational costs of students in all parts of the UK.
2. The full time nature of a nursing or midwifery degree and that students are often older, with other commitments such as children, makes it more difficult for these students to work alongside of their studies. Current funding levels often leave students short of money⁴⁵ and changes to funding could make this worse.
3. Aligning nursing and midwifery students funding to that of other students may prevent those with previous degrees who wish to re-train in order to provide care to others.
4. The proposed changes are also likely to have a significant impact on prospective students who are women, those with children and mature students. These groups already face challenges to entering higher education and often bring skills and knowledge that enhance the professions they seek to enter.
5. If students are required to work in paid employment along side their full time study and placements this could impact on their health, their abilities to succeed with their studies and on patient care.
6. Finance should not be a barrier to entering higher education for any student. The NUS, NUS Wales and Cardiff University Students' Union are engaged in campaigns to cut the cost of higher education for all students⁴⁶ and these changes fundamentally contradict our belief in this campaign.

Student Senate resolves:

1. The Students' Union is against the proposed changes to the financing of student nurses and midwives in England. The Students' Union is also against any similar changes affecting students in Wales should the Welsh Government consider this.
2. The President and VP Heath Park shall contact elected officers at Students' Unions from around the UK where nursing and midwifery education is provided seeking support for our policy and work with NUS to set up a campaign to lobby the UK Government. They shall also seek signatories in sending a joint letter to relevant government ministers which states the Students' Union position.
3. The President and VP Heath Park shall contact elected officers at Students' Unions in Wales where nursing and midwifery education is provided seeking support for our policy and work with NUS Wales to set up a campaign to lobby the Welsh Government. They shall also seek signatories in sending a joint letter to relevant government ministers which states the Students' Union position. urge against similar changes being made to nursing and midwifery students' funding in Wales.
4. VP Heath Park will liaise with professional bodies and professional trades' unions to identify any campaigns against these changes that can be supported and strengthened with the involvement of the Students' Union.
5. The Students' Union will support any students who wish to organise or attend campaigns fighting the proposed changes.
6. The Students' Union will propose a motion to NUS NEC and NUS Wales NEC to allow for a student debate on the future of financing healthcare education and to make it policy of both NUS and NUS Wales to campaign against the scrapping of free tuition and bursaries for nursing and midwifery students.

Submitted by Tim Nagle

⁴⁵ Guardian online. *George Osborne considers axing student nurse bursaries* 21.11.2015 [Online] <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/nov/21/george-osborne-considers-axeing-student-nurse-bursaries> accessed 21.11.2015

⁴⁶ Shana Hamilton 2015. *Students' Union takes stance against government policies*. Gair Rhydd [Online] <http://cardiffstudentmedia.co.uk/gairrhydd/headline/students-union-takes-stance-against-government-policies/> accessed 26.11.2015

We call upon NUS Wales to invite the Green Party and UKIP to take part in the NUS Wales Conference Debate.

Passed by Student Senate 02/02/2016

Submitted By: Jacob Ellis (Senate Member)

Seconded: Claire Blakeway (Cardiff SU President)

Senate Notes.

1. NUS Wales will hold its National Conference on 9th/10th of March.
2. Cardiff University Students' Union have already elected its delegates.
3. NUS Wales have planned to host a Welsh political leaders debate at the event.
4. NUS Wales have invited Labour, Conservative, Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats.
5. NUS Wales have not invited the Green Party or UKIP.
6. The Electoral Reform Society announced on 29.01.16 that the Assembly Election TV debates need six parties, including Green Party and UKIP.
7. The National Union of Students Wales has a rich history of encouraging youth engagement with politics and democracy.
8. Sam Murray, Wales Young Greens and Cardiff University Student has written an open letter to NUS calling on them to invite the Green Party.
9. The Green Party at the General Election called for no fees, higher maintenance grants, more apprenticeship and the protection of the Education Maintenance Allowance.
10. Over 280,000 people signed a petition last year to include the Green Party in General Election debates.
11. Over 100 people have signed a Wales specific petition for the Green Party to be included in the Assembly Election Debate.
12. Green Party has 1 MP and UKIP has 1 MP
13. Green Party received 1,157,613 votes at 2015 General Election
14. UKIP received 3,881,009 votes at 2015 General Election
15. At the 2011 Welsh Assembly Elections the Green Party received 34,133
16. Polls and experts, including an ITV and Welsh Governance Centre have predicted that UKIP will gain seats (predicted 9) at the election <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-35040901> 08.12.15
17. Many of our students are Green and UKIP supporters and voters. (Cardiff SU has both a Green Party and UKIP Society)

Senate Believes.

9. All parties should be given an opportunity to be held to account by students
10. In order for NUS to fulfil its vision; 'we will fight barriers to education, empower students to shape both a quality learning experience and the world around them' it must allow its members, at every available opportunity to hold potential and current governments to account.
11. The NUS campaign #generationvote would benefit from having all prospective parties involved.
12. If NUS Wales wants an active and engaged student voice at the election, it should allow students the opportunity to challenge and hear the policies of the parties at every opportunity.
13. The student membership of Wales have voters of those parties across Wales. We further believe, it would widen the debate and help distinguish where politicians stand on key issues.
14. If national politics is having a conversation with these parties, NUS should too.

Senate Resolves.

5. For the union to lobby NUS Wales to invite the Green Party and UKIP to take part in the National Conference debate.

Challenge don't Censor

Passed by AGM 24/11/2016

AGM Notes:

1. The safety of all students at Cardiff University, regardless of age, sex, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, religion, political views and disability, is a top priority.
2. While safe spaces are necessary for the protection of students in vulnerable situations the Union as a whole also has a responsibility to provide a broad platform for all students and debate topics.
3. There has been an increase in censorship of students' actions and speech across Higher Education in the UK that goes beyond mere legal constraints.
4. If the SU wants to uphold its values, working with every Cardiff student to be totally inclusive, then it has to remain neutral on divisive issues.
5. By law the Union must be a democratic institution and, as such, must facilitate the debate necessary for an informed, diverse democracy.
6. A platform is required for such a debate.
7. That "any member or employee of Cardiff University who has intentionally or recklessly prejudiced freedom of speech or lawful assembly within its precincts will be subject to disciplinary proceedings." (Cardiff University Code of Practice to Ensure Freedom of Speech, 2014)

AGM Believes:

1. A significant part of the student experience is engaging in debate and dialogue both within our degrees and in the rest of our university experience.
2. Cardiff University is "driven by creativity and curiosity, we strive to fulfil our social, cultural and economic obligations to Cardiff, Wales, and the world."⁴⁷
3. Students are capable of challenging intolerable views through rigorous debate; censorship is not the answer.
4. The Students Union must remain neutral on subjects that are divisive amongst the student population so as to not ostracise a particular group of students or stifle debate. The SU is there to represent *all* students.
5. When a topic or discussion is pre-framed it makes some positions and struggles inarticulate, effectively silencing those who wish to challenge majority opinion.

⁴⁷ <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/about>

6. In order to enable constructive debate a platform is required which does not presuppose the outcome of the debate or innately manipulate the content of the debate through pre-framing or advocating one side.
7. Students who hold 'minority', 'offensive' or 'unpopular' views (since such terms are subjective) should not be given a free pass; they should be challenged and explored or exposed.
8. The best way to challenge such views is through open debate; censorship and banning conceal rather than expose such views.
9. All students should be allowed a voice on campus regardless of age, sex, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, religion, political views and disability within the remits of national and devolved law.

AGM Resolves:

1. The Students' Union will allow students to have a voice on campus regardless of age, sex, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, religion, political views and disability; they will not 'no platform' students on grounds it may cause offence.
2. All students, no matter their views, will not be censored in so far as their actions are performed inside the law.
3. Events, societies and sports clubs at the SU will not be banned as long as their actions are within the law and subject to the Union's bylaws.
4. No students will be discriminated against or censored; all will be given a platform. By providing such a platform the Union does not endorse any such views, remaining officially neutral in order to facilitate open debate and dialogue.
5. The Union will not censor minority groups, minority opinions and the legal expression or actions of students.
6. The Students Union shall do everything within its power to protect, preserve and promote freedom of speech within the organization, its premises and Cardiff University.
7. The Students Union condemns the NUS' use of No Platforms.

Stop fuelling hate

Passed at Student Senate 24/01/17

This senate notes:

Cardiff University has an advertising budget of £831 000 pounds a year¹. Whilst some of this is spent on activities such as open days, some of this is also spent on advertisements within newsprints, and their online counterparts.

That Cardiff University actively engages with a range of print media, and their online counterparts to publish newsworthy breakthroughs or innovations the University has made. It does this through emailing and telephoning journalists from a range of papers with stories and statements it publishes.

That Cardiff University has refused to say which newspapers it advertises with, however there is evidence attached showing an online advertisement on a daily mail site.

This senate additionally notes that:

- The editorial stances of several newspapers has helped create a climate of increasing victimisation of certain groups, including, BME, LGBT+, refugee status, Muslims, and the disabled⁵. Hate crimes in the UK have been increasing over time⁴
- There is a growing movement, called 'stop funding hate' which seeks to remove the funding which such new platforms rely on to propagate their editorial stances. Recent successes include the co-op's review of its advertising policy, and lego's withdrawal of it's advertising with the daily mail group²
- That Cardiff University has both a duty, and a self-described aim to 'Ensure that we can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in our day-to-day activities'

This senate believes:

That the University Cannot continue to positively contribute to advancing equality and good relations, whilst simultaneously funding and serving the interests of hate through

- paying for advertising space in News outlets which fuel discriminatory hate
- providing newsworthy stories for outlets which fuel discriminatory hate

This senate resolves:

That the officer team be mandated, and act immediately to lobby the University to

- 1) Stop paying for advertisements in the news outlets outlined below and their online counter parts.
- 2) Not engage in press releases with the same print outlets and their online counterparts.

- The outlets are the following: the daily mail group, the sun group, and the daily express group.

Proposer: Matthew Procter

Secunder: Joshua Green

- 1) https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/advertising_expenditure_2#incoming-867633
- 2) <http://www.stopfundinghate.org.uk/>
- 3) https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/559319/hate-crime-1516-hosb1116.pdf
- 4) <http://www.disabilitynewsservice.com/national-newspapers-add-fuel-to-the-hate-crime-fire/>
- 5) https://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Country-by-country/United_Kingdom/GBR-CbC-V-2016-038-ENG.pdf (point 40)

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SHARE


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Want to push yourself in 2017? Sign up today for a free place in the Cardiff University/Cardiff Half Marathon.

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The London Fire Brigade (LFB) said it rescued six people from the first floor flat while 72 firefighters worked to dampen the flames, which were brought under control by 5am.

Acton police station, next door to the pub in High Street, was also evacuated as a precautionary measure.

Mail Online Video More Videos...

Fire rips through Acton 30 minutes before midnight on

Put liberation and campaigns at centre stage

Passed at Student Senate 24/01/17

Senedd notes:

1. Cardiff University Students' Union ("the Union") has 7 paid, Sabbatical Officers and 9 Campaign Officers that undertake their duties on a voluntary basis. During the Cardiff Student Elections this year, a Mental Health Campaign Officer will be elected for the first time ever. All of these officers are elected into their positions by a cross-campus vote of the student body to serve for the preceding academic year.

2. Ensuring equality, liberation and diversity in all aspects of the education sector and every aspect of society has always been a core value of the student movement; that continues to be true to this day.

3. The Union's main governing document⁴⁸, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, states that one of the Union's guiding missions is to achieve the following at all times:

"(i) ensure that the diversity of its Student Membership is recognised and that equal access is available to all Student Members of whatever origin or orientation;

(ii) pursue its aims and objectives independent of any political party or religious group; and

(iii) pursue equal opportunities by taking positive action within the law to facilitate participation of groups discriminated against by society."

4. Concerns that Campaign Officers are side-lined have been raised time and time again. However, the Union has ducked the issue. For example, in a meeting between the Campaign Officers of 2015/16 and the SU President and Director of Membership Services on 29 February 2016, concerns of that nature were raised; the Union leadership vowed to tackle the lack of publicity given to Campaign Officers and to provide them with lanyards/identity cards in order for them to access the Union building and for students to identify them. The undertaking was not acted upon. In the first Student Senedd meeting of 2016, a Campaign Officer stated that the arrangements for financing those officers and their liberation campaigns was insufficient; in the 2016 AGM, concerns that liberation officers are side-lined were also expressed.

5. There is no mention of the existence of Campaign Officers on the graphic displayed on the front of the Union building nor on the graphic erected in the new re-development near the Union's rear entrance on Senghennydd Road; on the Union's main website

⁴⁸ <https://www.cardiffstudents.com/pageassets/about-cusu/governance/mem-arts/CUSU-Memorandum-and-Articles-of-Association.pdf>

homepage; on pop-ups raised throughout the campus to promote the Union's work nor on the marketing TV screens within the Union building⁴⁹.

6. The positions and responsibilities of Sabbatical Officers are outlined in the Appendices to the Bye-laws⁵⁰, but the same isn't true of Campaign Officers.

7. Campaign Officers are granted the following resources to undertake their roles: Email, Facebook, and Twitter accounts, clothing, and access to a workstation within Student Voice (hot desk), as well as training from Student Voice.

8. Sabbatical Officers are granted the following resources to undertake their roles: Email, Facebook, and Twitter accounts, clothing, business cards, as well as training from Student Voice, a laptop that is provided as their workstation and a mobile phone.

9. Disparities between Campaign Officers and Sabbatical Officers can be identified with regards to elections⁵¹.

10. Further information obtained by the Union executive for the purposes of forming this motion can be seen in Appendix 2.

Senedd believes:

1. That a more prominent and central place should be given to Campaign Officers and to liberation campaigns within the Union.

2. That all officers - whether they be Sabbatical Officers or Campaign Officers - are full-time, elected officers tasked with representing students, leading the Union and form part of one strong officer team; the Union should thus treat all of its officers as equals and afford them the same platform.

3. That Campaign Officers should be equipped with all the necessary resources to effectively undertake their duties as elected student representatives and they should not be under any personal disadvantage as a result of fulfilling their duties.

4. That standing as a student officer candidate in the Union's elections should be a practical option for every Member, which shouldn't be hindered by concerns such as personal finances.

5. That the work and contribution of Campaign Officers should be celebrated and recognised as such work is undertaken out of a passion and conviction for equality, whilst following full-time degree programmes and without pay.

6. That Campaign Officers in many cases are champions for liberation campaigns, and in that capacity have a key role to play in raising awareness of liberation issues amongst the student body in its entirety.

Senedd resolves:

⁴⁹ See Appendix 1

⁵⁰ [https://www.cardiffstudents.com/pageassets/about-cusu/governance/mem-arts/CUSU-Bye-Laws-Appendices-17th-Dec-2015\(1\).pdf](https://www.cardiffstudents.com/pageassets/about-cusu/governance/mem-arts/CUSU-Bye-Laws-Appendices-17th-Dec-2015(1).pdf)

⁵¹ See Appendix 2

1. That the pictures and names of Campaign Officers should be displayed alongside the names and pictures of Sabbatical Officers at the front of the Union building and in the re-development, near the Union's rear entrance on Senghennydd Road, as soon as possible at the start of the new semester and as a matter of practise during preceding academic years.
2. That when the Union gives publicity to the Sabbatical Officer team in its entirety (including, amongst other things, when erecting pop-up banners on campus, on TV screens within the Union building and on the Union's website home page), it should give the same publicity to the Campaign Officer team.
3. That the phrase "Elected Officers" shall be used by the Union to refer to the Union's elected officer team in its entirety – to include both Campaign and Sabbatical Officers; that the phrase "Sabbatical Officers" shall be used by the Union to refer to the Union's elected Sabbatical Officer team; and that the phrase "Campaign Officers" shall be used by the Union to refer to the Union's elected Campaign Officer team.
4. That the nature of resources made available to the Campaign Officer team should be equitable to those made available to the Sabbatical Officer team, in order to allow all elected officers of the Union to fulfil their duties effectively. Senedd specifically resolves that lanyards/identity cards should be provided to Campaign Officers as soon as possible during the new semester; and that the Union should plan ahead to ensure that the Campaign Officer team have access to the appropriate equipment to effectively undertake their duties, such as business cards, clothing, IT equipment and mobile phones – without prejudicing the exact method of implementing this desire, and as determined by the executive team, having consulted with those parties deemed appropriate – from the 2017/18 academic year onwards.
5. To place a duty on Sabbatical Officers to consult with Campaign Officers on any matter affecting the latter's remits and responsibilities, to share any relevant documents with them and to include them in coming to a decision on those matters; to invite the current Sabbatical and Campaign Officers to develop a protocol to ensure that liberation officers shall not be publicly undermined on any matter which relates mainly or solely to a liberation campaign led by them, should a situation arise whereby officers' views differ.
6. That the Students' Union does what is in its power to ensure Campaign Officers shall be invited to the Union's Partnership Board with the University.
7. To invite the executive team to bring forward amendments to the Union's By-laws to the next meeting of Senedd in order to include and recognise the positions of elected Campaign Officers within the Union's governing documents, as is the case for Sabbatical Officers.
8. To mandate the SU President to write to the President of NUS Cymru to ask what progress has been made on the motion entitled 'The 1994 Act is Problematic' agreed at the 2015 NUS Cymru Conference⁵²; to invite her to bring forward a report sharing the response to the next meeting of Senedd (or at the earliest convenience) and to present proposals regarding a comprehensive recognition package to Campaign Officers, whether

⁵² [http://s3-eu-west-](http://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/nusdigital/document/documents/13590/fa3e5b24d8ec484a956ec0d1498153ac/Motions%20Final%20English%20Format%20Amendments.pdf)

[1.amazonaws.com/nusdigital/document/documents/13590/fa3e5b24d8ec484a956ec0d1498153ac/Motions%20Final%20English%20Format%20Amendments.pdf](http://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/nusdigital/document/documents/13590/fa3e5b24d8ec484a956ec0d1498153ac/Motions%20Final%20English%20Format%20Amendments.pdf)

that be financial or otherwise, that could be introduced from the 2017/18 academic year onwards.

9. That as the work of forming the Union's budget for the next financial year takes place, to call on the Board of Trustees to include an expenditure line containing protected finance to fund liberation campaigns and the campaigns of Campaign Officers within the budget, in addition to the Student Voice/other budgets for that financial year and preceding financial years.

10. Resolves mentioned above will be continually discussed with the Sabbatical team.

Submitted by: Steffan Bryn

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Policy Title	Body Approved by	Date Passed	Date Expires
Gender balance our NUS UK delegation		11/02/2014	11/02/2017
Recorded Senate Meetings	Student Senate	24/01/2017	24/01/2020

Gender balance our NUS UK delegation

Submitted by: Ollie Wannell

The issue:

The delegation we send to NUS Wales conference has to be gender balanced, but the delegation we send to NUS UK conference does not.

We have an organisational goal of diversifying our active student movement which includes, but is not limited to, making sure that men and women are equally represented.

The benefit:

It fits within our organisational goal.

Having women's only places is not about reserving places for women but is about encouraging them to put themselves forward in a system that has historically been raining men.

The action:

Have 50% of our NUS UK delegation as women's only places. To select NUS UK and NUS Wales delegates at the same time as Student Senate, and hold at least one by-election should the women's places not be filled in the first election.

Recorded Senate Meetings

Passed at Student Senate 24/01/17

Student Senate notes:

1. Current Student Meetings are not being recorded in video format.
1. Recognises Gair Rhydd has attended the meeting to take notes and then publish a newspaper article in their respective paper.
2. This academic year's AGM was recorded in a video format and uploaded on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WBoZsU_jH7c).
3. Legitimately and/or excused absent senate member can still participate virtually and potentially vote on Senate motions, when they have the means to access the discussion and debate.
4. Every Parliament in the UK is recorded by the BBC
5. Each senator's voting record is available on Cardiff Student's Union webpage. Thus how they vote is not a clandestine affair.

Student Senate believes:

1. An increase in accessibility and further openness of student senate meetings would enable students to see how senate operates, creating more trust in the senate due to transparency.
2. It would combat the general political apathy students are having with politics by the transparency measures proposed.
3. Senators are making policies on behalf of their fellow students and students have a right to see how they are representing them in the senate.
4. This allows senators who are voted on their manifestos to be further faithful to their manifesto.
5. This would be particularly useful for Heath Park students whom due to proximity are often less inclined to travel down to Park Place to attend meetings.

Student Senate resolves:

1. To invite Cardiff Union TV, or any other service in which the senate or union feel adequate to record Senate meetings and a transcription be provided with recording.

Submitted by: Usman M. Bukhari

Seconded by: Sara Al Sayed

COMPANY MATTERS

Policy Title	Body Approved by	Date Passed	Date Expires
Drink Awareness	Student Senate	04/11/2014	04/11/2017
External bookings for Students' Union venues should not go ahead if they conflict with Students' Union policies.	Student Senate	02/12/2014	02/12/2017
Policy on Sexist Media and Advertising	Student Senate	03/02/2014	03/02/2017
Catering for all - Vegan food options at the SU	Student Senate	21/11/2016	21/11/2019

Drink Awareness

Submitted by: Timothy Nagel

Passed at Student Senate 04.11.2014

What's the issue?

In the past the Students Union has held events where alcohol is sold branded in a way which may be perceived to promote irresponsible drinking, 'The Lash' and 'Drink The Bar Dry' as two examples.

The students' Union accepts that socialising and consuming alcohol are a normal part for many students while at university but also recognises that students are often young people, away from home for the first time with new pressures put on their lives and can feel vulnerable.

The students union has an obligation to protect the welfare of students at Cardiff and as such would not want alcohol to become a problem which may impact on a students' academic progress, personal safety, financial wellbeing or their health.

At present the students union statement on responsible drinking is:

Cardiff University Students' Union actively promotes responsible drinking behaviour among our student members. To find out more about how to drink responsibly and what constitutes binge drinking, visit drinkaware.co.uk.

This statement is brief, contradicts some of the marketing messages from the union and, in directing students to an external site does not actively promote students or look after their welfare.

Why is this important to Cardiff students?

Students come to Cardiff to further their knowledge and gain academic qualifications as well as make lifelong friends and enjoy living in a city with a vibrant and active social scene. It is important to ensure that students do not feel that consuming alcohol is a pre-requisite to making friends, attending events and enjoying their time at Cardiff.

The majority of students at Cardiff will not experience any problems with alcohol consumption but, for those who do it is important that they are supported by academic staff, support staff and the students union.

It is important that academic staff are aware of signs that might suggest a student is struggling with any form of substance abuse issue that is affecting their health or academic performance.

What action should the union take?

The Students Union should work with the university to develop a substance use policy that staff and students can refer to should a problem be identified. This policy should not only focus on support for students who may have a problem but also those who feel they may be at risk or want support on how to reduce their substance use/use within safe levels.

The VP Welfare will be responsible for ensuring that Students Union marketing is not perceived to promote excessive alcohol consumption; complying with licensing rules should not be seen as the maximum standard.

Society and sports club committee training should incorporate an aspect of responsible drinking to be considered when organising social events. This policy should not prevent any type of social event being organised such as pub crawls but ensure that event organisers

The Students Union should lobby the university to deliver training to personal tutors on signs which may suggest that a student is facing a problem with alcohol or drugs in order to ensure that students can be offered support at the earliest opportunity.

Resources:

Policy on alcohol use for Swansea University students

<http://www.swansea.ac.uk/media/Student%20Alcohol%20Policy.pdf>

Video of talk by Rachel Brown (research student at Cardiff) talking about alcohol use amongst first year students

<http://www.fead.org.uk/video761/Rachel-Brown,-Cardiff-University:-Alcohol-and-new-university-students.html>

External bookings for Students' Union venues should not go ahead if they conflict with Students' Union policies.

**Submitted by: Laura Carter
Passed by Student Senate 02.12.2014**

Student Senate Notes:

1. In October 2014, Dapper Laughs was due to perform at Y Plas (the Students' Union nightclub). There was controversy over whether Dapper Laughs, an act who is known to perpetrate and encourage sexist and misogynistic views and behaviour, should be allowed to perform at the Students' Union when his views and behaviour are in direct contradiction to the Union's Anti-Lad Culture Policy. An internet petition (via change.org) to prevent him performing at the Students' Union received over 700 signatures. During this time, there was a lot of media coverage, both locally and nationally. A survey to students on whether Dapper Laughs should be allowed to perform was declared invalid at the Student Senate in October 2014 and it was also voted on by the Senate that he should not be allowed to perform at the Students' Union. As a result, the act was cancelled.
2. There is a unanimous feeling at the Students' Union and amongst students that any future performance that acts in contrary to Students' Union policy should not be allowed to take place.
3. At the moment, when students, Students' Union staff, societies and other student-led organisations book to use a room or venue within the Students' Union have, they have to declare whether any external speakers will be performing at the Students' Union. The guest speaker policy involves searching a external organisation database of speakers deemed appropriate.
4. It is not possible to vet an external booking before confirming their performance as it is standard practice that venues will have no knowledge of who/what the act is for a long time after the original booking has been made. In the meantime, promotional material, merchandising and logistics of staging the act have already been arranged. The Commercial team at the Students' Union has stated that 'This is standard practice across the industry and we, as a venue have no influence to change this'.

Student Senate Believes:

1. That the priority of the Students' Union should always be to maintain and uphold its' policies and the interests of the students it serves.
2. The principle of this policy should not be undermined by proposing measures and procedures that are impractical and impossible to apply.
3. Had the Commercial team performed a brief background research on Dapper Laughs when the name of the act was known, it would have been clear to see that his type of performance was in contradiction to Students' Union policy and would cause great offense. Either a background check on his act did not take place or the Commercial team did not think that his act would be inappropriate for the Students' Union.
4. Incidents such as the Dapper Laughs act are incredibly rare. No other act in recent Students' Union past (the past 8 years according to the Commercial team) has been cancelled in this way before.
5. However, measures should be in place to ensure that any future acts booked externally should not be allowed to perform at the Students' Union if they are in conflict with Students' Union policies.

Student Senate Resolves:

1. The Commercial team should be fully informed on what current Students' Union policy is.

2. The Commercial team should always perform background research on an external booking, when the name of the act becomes apparent, to ensure that it would not conflict with Students' Union policy.
3. Any booking that is identified to be in conflict with Students' Union policy should be reviewed by the Leadership team (comprised of full time sabbatical officers and management of Students' Union services and departments).
4. If it is decided by the Leadership team that an act should not be allowed to perform at the Students' Union, because it would be in conflict with Students' Union policy, the Commercial team should respect this decision.
5. If the Leadership Team is unsure of an act's suitability, the matter should be brought before Student Senate to decide whether letting the act perform would conflict with Students' Union policy.

Policy on Sexist Media and Advertising

(To replace outdated Lad Mags policy)

Passed at Student Senate 03.02.2014

Student Senate Notes:

1. Three magazines were pulled from the shelves of the Students' Union WHSmith shop in February 2012: FHM, Front and Nuts. These magazines were removed following the request made to the Shop Manager by the Women's Officer 2011/12 and Finance and Commercial Officer. Prior to this the shop did not make a substantial amount of money from the sale of these three magazines.
2. 'The Sun' newspaper was banned from the Students' Union WHSmith shop in December 2013 and taken down from their shelves in September 2013. The Sun was deemed to objectify women for having an image of a topless woman as the largest image of a woman in their newspaper.
 - According to the No More Page 3 campaign, 33 Students' Union have so far banned the selling of The Sun in their shops for this reason.
 - However, the Students' Union WhSmith shop continues to sell 'The Daily Star' which has equivalent Page 3 content.
3. In March 2014, Cardiff Women's Association wrote a letter to Students' Union President that the Union should not endorse MTV's #YesPimpMySummerBall competition. This was because the use of the word 'pimp' was seen to normalise and trivialise sexual violence and sexual trafficking.
4. A complaint was made to the Women's Officer 2014/15 by a student in October 2014 that the Poster Fair was displaying posters for sale that objectify and sexualise women.
5. A complaint was made to the Women's Officer 2014/15 in October 2014 that an external radio station was playing the song 'Blurred Lines' in 'The Pantry', a food outlet in the Students' Union building. This contravenes our Anti-Lad Culture policy.
 - Numerous universities have banned 'Blurred Lines' playing in their Unions including Cardiff, Edinburgh, Leeds and Derby. This is because 'Blurred Lines' is seen as a song that glorifies rape and sexual violence.
6. Climax Promotions caused a great deal of controversy and outrage amongst students in September 2014 for handing out promotional material near the Students' Union building that encouraged students to record their sexual activities in so-called 'Shag Charts'.

Student Senate Believes:

1. The Student's Union has a responsibility to ensure that their building is a safe space and accessible environment for all students, day and night.
2. Women students should not have to encounter language and imagery that is seen to objectify and sexualise women in their own Students' Union.
3. The Students' Union has a duty to take an active stance against the idea that the objectification and sexualisation of women and rape as well as supportive attitudes (including victim blaming and glorifying rape and sexual violence) are a normal aspect of student life and society as a whole.
4. The Students' Union can take this stance by refusing to endorse imagery and language that is seen to objectify and sexualise women and condemning when it takes place.
5. Stipulating that the language and imagery that objectifies and sexualises women should be banned reinforces our Anti-Lad Culture policy.

Student Senate Resolves:

1. To use every power in its jurisdiction to prevent to the objectification and sexualisation of women taking place.
2. To lobby the Students' Union and the WHSmith shop manager to continue this practice, and not sell these magazines, 'The Sun' newspaper and the 'Daily Star' newspaper, or pornographic material in the Shop.
3. To emphasise to outlets and services that operate within the Students' Union that an Anti-Lad Culture policy is in place and they should not play 'Blurred Lines' or any other songs that encourage sexual violence or misogyny.
4. To ensure that the Students' Union does not use or endorse any language or imagery in its own promotional material that is deemed to objectify and sexualise women in any way.
5. To liaise with external companies and organisations who use the Students' Union to promote their events and/or products that any language and imagery that they use should not objectify or sexualise women in any way.
6. The Students' Union should disassociate from any external companies and organisations that continue to use language and imagery that objectify or sexualise women in their promotional material, despite Students' Union requests.
7. For the Students' Union to openly condemn any external companies and organisation that distribute or use any promotional material that objectifies and sexualises women to students. Even if it is not in the jurisdiction of the Students' Union to ban these companies and organisations from approaching students outside the Union or operating around the Students' Union premises, the Union should make their stance clear.

RESOURCES

1. Cardiff University's Students' Union's Anti-Lad Culture Policy:
<http://www.cardiffstudents.com/pageassets/about-cusu/policy/Anti-Lad-Culture-Policy.pdf>
2. The No More Page 3 Campaign:
<http://nomorepage3.org/>
3. Article about Climax Promotions and the material they were distributing to students:
<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/anger-over-shagchart-being-handed-7829466>

Submitted by: Laura Carter & Kate Delaney

Catering for all - Vegan food options at the SU

Passed by Student Senate 21.11.16

Proposed by Matthew Proctor

Seconded by: Joshua Green

Senate Notes:

Currently, there are no vegan friendly menu options available at the Taf, with the salad bar being the only provider of vegan foods in the SU food court. Additionally, the staff at the Taf often have no information regarding how vegan friendly the alcohol provision currently is.

Senate Believes:

Vegan foods are increasingly becoming mainstream, with most large restaurant chains having at least one option available. Vegan lifestyles are becoming more common within the student population as the popularity of veganism continues to grow.

Senate Resolves:

- Taf will provide at least one Vegan friendly menu option ASAP, but at the very latest, before the start of the second semester 2016/17
 - This senate also resolves that information regarding the animal content in the drinks served is available to staff, is physically visible around bars, and is registered on the SU website.
 - That The SU should consider stocking vegan friendly alcohol choices as standard.
 - The students union should lobby the relevant University catering departments to similarly provide vegan friendly foods and drinks and label them accordingly.
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