



Policy of the University of Huddersfield
Students' Union

UNION POLICY

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1. ELITE SPORTS REPRESENTATION

Passed 2nd February 2004
Ratified 8th March 2004
Due for Renewal February 2009

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

1. The University of Huddersfield Students' Union represents elite sport athletes,
2. Athletes from the University of Huddersfield may be asked selected to represent their sport on a higher level than representing the University of Huddersfield in the student leagues.
3. The associated costs for representation at a higher level is often expensive.

This Union Believes

1. Student participation at a higher level will increase awareness of Huddersfield Students' Union.
2. That we should be fully supportive of any athlete of a Students' Union club who wishes to compete at a higher level.

This Union Instructs

1. The Executive To financially support elite athletes by way of the following fair system:-
 - £50 costs fully reimbursed.
 - Additional costs to be 1/3rd subsidised to a maximum annually approved by the Finance Committee.
2. For the system of funding to be open and equal for all those who qualify to play at a higher level than that of normal student competition.

Proposed: David Kinsella (Treasurer)
Seconded: Ian Ball (VP Sports and Societies)

2. VARIABLE FEES

Passed 2nd February 2004
Ratified 8th March 2004
Due for renewal February 2009

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

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1. The price of education is increasing more and more with time.
2. Some students are neglecting University work in order to get a job, often working long hours to support themselves.
3. Top-up-fees will disadvantage certain individuals and may out price many potential graduates.
4. The introduction of variable fees may put potential graduates off selecting certain courses.

This Union Believes:

1. The introduction of a variable fee system will commercialise Higher education.
2. The commercialisation of Higher Education may well create a situation where by individuals choose a course based on its price rather than the course that best suits their skills,
3. Choosing courses based on price discriminates against those without the adequate funding and is against our Equal Opportunities Policy.
4. Education is a right and not a privilege
5. Students should not have to work long hours in order to study full time

This Union Instructs

1. To continue the fight against top up fees and the introduction of variable fees.
2. To fight for a fair funding system for all classes not simply isolated ones in line with our Equal Opportunities Policy
3. For Sabbatical Officers to raise awareness on campus of the facts surrounding top-up-fees and variable fees

Proposed David Kinsella (Treasurer)
Seconded Claire Lishman (President)

3. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Passed 28th October 2003
Policy due to lapse October 2008

(Executive Committee)

This Union Believes:

1. That equal opportunities in all aspects of life, e.g. employment, educational access, opportunity and delivery is a basic right and should be observed by all members of University Staff, University of Huddersfield Students' Union Staff, and members of University of Huddersfield Students' Union.
2. That prejudice on whatever grounds does exist in our society and that the Students' Union should be doing as much as possible both to educate those who are prejudiced and also create a non-discriminatory

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environment where members and staff are free to carry on with their lives free from the fear of discrimination.

3. Fundamentally in the principles of Equal Opportunities. We believe that every single student should have an equal chance to get involved in the social, campaigning, democratic, activities-based and commercial aspects of this Students' Union.
4. No person that comes into contact with the Students' Union should receive less favourable treatment, be disadvantaged or disadvantage others on the grounds of their ethnic group, nationality, gender, gender orientation, sexuality, age, disability, marital status, family commitments, political or religious beliefs, spent or irrelevant criminal convictions, trade union activity, or HIV status. This union regards such discrimination as unacceptable and promotes Equal Opportunities both as an employer and as a representative and campaigning body and provider of services,

This Union Instructs:

1. That all staff and members of the University of Huddersfield Student Union adhere to the Equal Opportunities Statement and Policy.
2. The Executive Committee pledge to campaign against discrimination both on campus and in wider society.
3. That Equal Opportunities should be represented through the sabbatical and non-sabbatical positions.

Proposed by: Claire Lishman (President)

Seconded by: Tom Johnson (VP Education and Welfare)

4. 2006 DEFERRED FEES: THE STUDENTS' UNION DECISION ON FEES

Passed 15th November 2004

(Student Governing Council)

Due to lapse November 2009

This Union Notes:

1. We believe that students should have the best teaching, learning, student support, up to date teaching environment and tools to enable them to attain the best results pertaining each individual's choice or certification
2. That they have the right to choose the best universities that adopt these principles
3. That student studying at the University come from differing and diverse backgrounds

This Union Believes:

1. That in the light of the top-up fees, which will be £3,000pa in 1006, giving students' at the University of Huddersfield a reduced sum of monies to

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encourage them to partake their choice of course or giving them incentives greatly reduces the reputation of the University.

2. The University can use this opportunity to build up its reputation within the Higher Education sector pertaining to the band to which it belongs
3. Students studying at the University should have the best possible lecturers and teaching materials as each other

This Union Resolves:

1. That the university in 2006 should not give up front incentives or monies as to attract its potential students.
2. The students receive all structured course material as outlined at the beginning of each academic year for free
3. Students should have access to laptop research area within Internet access.
4. That the University should research and implement means to support the differing and diverse students at the University of Huddersfield for example;
 - More basic student support
 - Crèche facilities for single or family obligated students
 - Equality in marking of high cost courses in schools such as Art & Design and Applied Sciences
5. The University strives to attract the best possible lecturers within their respective field, thus enhancing teaching and learning

Proposed: Tom Johnson (President)

Seconded: Rob Hammond (VP Education and Welfare)

5. STAFFING POLICY

Passed on 10th May 2004

(Student Governing Council)

Due to lapse May 2009

This Union notes:

1. The Students Union is comprised of full and part time staff.
2. Both Sabbatical Officers and these full and part time staff work in the same environment.
3. Sabbatical officers work to a schedule and job description quite different to that of a full or part time employee

This Union believes:

1. The Students' Union contains a business which relies on the expertise of full and part time staff.
2. To ensure good working practice the Students Union requires good lines of communication.
3. In order for staff to work and communicate a system needs to exist in order to maintain internal control.

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4. The line management structure exists along with grievance guidelines to promote a good working environment.
- 5.

This Union instructs:

1. Sabbatical officers along with full and part time staff to maintain good working relationships with each other.
2. The line management structure be strictly followed during all working tasks.
3. Sabbatical officers note that ordinary staff are under the working jurisdiction of the General Manager (or their deputy during absence) and all working tasks to potentially involve the staffing structure be communicated through the General Manager.
4. The General Manager to oversee all staff job descriptions are followed, thus holding the last word on what is considered a reasonable request from one member of staff or sabbatical re directed to another member of staff.
5. Commercial Managers hold full control of their department and all decisions and activities undertaken in order to produce a surplus in accordance with that deemed reasonable by the General Manager with advice from the finance department.
6. Sabbatical Officers are left to work independently on tasks for those they represent.

Proposed: David Kinsella (Treasurer)

Seconded: Claire Lishman (President)

6. ACCOMMODATION

Approved 27th January 2005

Ratified 15th February 2005

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

1. The contract between the University of Huddersfield and Ubrique Investments Ltd. (Campus Digs)
2. That the Students' Union is not covered by the Nominations Agreement between the University and Ubrique Investments Ltd.
3. That the University of Huddersfield's preferred option for accommodation is Campus Digs.

This Union Believes:

1. That it is the right of all students at the University of Huddersfield to receive impartial information on accommodation.
2. That the contract between the University and Ubrique Investments Ltd. is restrictive and prevents Impartial information being given to students at the University of Huddersfield.

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3. That the Students' Union has a duty to provide such impartial information to students.

This Union Resolves:

1. To provide students' with impartial advice and information on accommodation provision.
2. To provide such information through the Student Advice & Information Centre and all channels of media communication to students, giving equal status to all external accommodation providers.

Proposed: John Goodwin (VP Communications)

Seconded: Tom Johnson (President)

7. OUT OF OFFICE TIME

Passed 22nd August 2005

Ratified 28th February 2006

Due to lapse February 2011

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

1. The general apathy amongst student members of the University of Huddersfield Students' Union.
2. The tendency of certain previous sabbatical officers to spend all their time in their offices.
3. That despite an increase last year, turnout in Union elections is still low.
4. The lack of active student participation in many of the Union's bodies.

This Union Believes:

1. It is not possible to keep up-to-date with student issues on a local level by spending all the time in the office.
2. That previous executive committees have been perceived as cliquey and out of touch with their members.
3. That engaging with students away from the office will increase both our members knowledge of what sabbatical officers do, and the Executive's knowledge of what issues are affecting our members.
4. That increasing contact time with members will help them to believe that they make a difference, and will help to encourage participation and election turnout.

This Union Resolves:

1. That at least one day from every calendar month be set aside for the Sabbatical officers to spend away from the office.
2. That this time be spent engaging with students on a 'grass roots' level; such as in the bar, the library, or at halls of residence.
3. That the Sabbatical officers use any knowledge gained from this time to shape the Union in the interests of its members.

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4. That the aim of the above be aimed at overcoming student apathy and increasing participation, in order to strengthen the Union.

Proposed by: John Goodwin (President)
Seconded by: Myk Simmons (VP Education and Welfare)

8. POLICY ON POLICY

Passed 22nd August 2005

Ratified 28th February 2006

Due to lapse February 2011

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

1. The importance of an up-to-date policy file.
2. The need for all Union officers to be fully acquainted with live policy.
3. That all too often, Union officers are not familiar with Union policy.
4. Schedule 2.20 of the constitution, which states that 'all policy passed by SGC or a General Meeting shall lapse after 5 years, unless renewed or overturned by the said bodies'

This Union Believes:

1. That the smooth running of the Union is dependent on coherent policies and their clear understanding.
2. In the importance of maintaining Schedule 2.20, to allow live policies to be overturned or updated if they become unworkable or irrelevant.
3. That in many cases, members of permanent Students' Union staff will also need to be familiar with certain policies.

This Union Resolves:

1. That it become the responsibility of the President to ensure that the Executive Committee and the non-sabbatical officers are familiar with all the policies of the University of Huddersfield Students' Union.
2. That it become the responsibility of the General Manager to ensure that all staff members are aware of any policies in place which may affect their work.
3. That the Policy folder remains in the Administrative Assistant's Office unless in use, and that it be the admin assistant's responsibility to inform the President of any policies approaching the date of lapse.
4. That Schedule 2.20 be maintained in any constitution changes that take place before this policy lapses.

Proposed by: John Goodwin (President)
Seconded by: Martin Rix (VP Communications)

9. CREDIT CARDS

Passed October 2000 as Barclay Card Policy (Student Governing Council)
Renewed with Amendments and name change 12th December 2005

(Student Governing Council)

Due to lapse December 2010

The Union Notes:

1. The extensive opportunity, by which credit card companies promote themselves throughout Universities and in the Students' Unions and the extremity in which they will operate, in order to capture the student market

The Union Further Notes

1. The increasing number of students, year on year, that enter into a credit card agreement during their time at University.
2. These students create for themselves, within a relatively short period of time, a critical level of debt, which becomes almost impossible to financially control.

The Union Believes

1. The University of Huddersfield Students' Union should not directly or indirectly, promote any credit card company, which is one of the major causes of student debt throughout further and higher education in this country.

The Union further believes

1. The shameful attitude of credit card companies, in order to win across the student market by offering free mobile phones, with call charges inter-linked with the credit card agreement as well as other sweeteners including money back deals and no annual fee is nothing better than a national disgrace.

This Union instructs

1. The Executive to ban all credit card companies from promoting themselves within the student environment namely the Students' Union (UHSU)
2. The Executive to always ensure that the welfare of student is paramount at all times.

Proposed: Andrew Iredale (Part-time and Placements Officer)

Seconded: Martin Rix (Ordinary Member SGC)

10. MOTION SUBMITTED TO NUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE:
PLAGIARISM

Motion Passed December 12th 2005

(Student Governing Council)

Conference Believes

1. Cases of plagiarism are reportedly on the increase at Universities and colleges across the UK
2. Many students are not aware of exactly what constitutes plagiarism, and institutions are not as pro-active as they could be in educating students and preventing plagiarism.
3. A disproportionately large number of plagiarism cases within institutions relate to international students
4. New detection software is leading to a dramatic increase in the number of internet-related plagiarism discoveries

Conference Further Believes

1. Learning and assessment methods in the UK can be very different to those used in other countries
2. Many international students who are studying and submitting work in a way that would be usual in their home country are finding themselves subject to disciplinary action for plagiarism.
3. NUS must not condone plagiarism in any way
4. Institutions need to work harder to prevent plagiarism occurring
5. Providing students with information on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid plagiarising work would be a positive step in preventing the increase in plagiarism.

Conference Resolves

1. NUS to run a campaign around the issues of plagiarism, providing information to students on avoiding plagiarism in their work.
2. As part of this campaign to research existing best practice by Universities and Students' Union in combating plagiarism with a view towards producing a guide of effective methods of educating students about and combating plagiarism.

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3. This campaign should be particular directed towards supporting international students
4. NUS to lobby institutions and decision-makers to implement strategies to combat the increases in plagiarism and become aware of the different styles of learning in use across different parts of the world
5. Whilst not condoning plagiarism to encourage Student Unions to continue to support, advise and represent students facing disciplinary action due to allegations of plagiarism

289 words

Proposed: Lee Paxman (VP Sports and Societies)

Seconded: Mark Freeman (Union Chair)

11. MOTION SUBMITTED TO NUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE: GINGER REPRESENTATION

Motion Passed December 12th 2005

(Student Governing Council)

Conference Believes

1. That the NUS has a reputation for striving to achieve equality and representation for all minority groups, regardless of skin colour, gender or sexual orientation.
2. That Ginger people are currently deprived of such representation within NUS
3. That Ginger people are picked out by all races as an easy target for abuse from an early age; abuse which often continues throughout adult life.
4. That the suggestion of the need for specific representation for Ginger people is currently seen as silly, and not taken seriously enough.

Conference further believes

1. That at least 10%, approximately 5000,000 of Scots, approximately 400,000 Irish and over 3% approximately 1,500,000 of English people have Ginger or 'Strawberry Blond' hair.
2. That up to 35% of the Scottish and Irish population carry a recessive Ginger gene
3. That Ginger people are more susceptible to skin cancer and more sensitive to pain and extremes in temperature

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4. That being ridiculed for 'pulling a Ginger' is a common occurrence which is demoralising for the Ginger and the person that pulled them
5. That all of the above are good enough reasons to either create a 'Ginger Office' position on the NEX, or to ensure that this area comes under the remit of an existing position, to ensure that the prejudices that Ginger people face do not have a negative affect on their university life.

Conference Resolves

1. NUS to stop ignoring the representational needs of Ginger people, and create a 'Ginger Office' position within the NEC, or add this area of representation to an existing NEC remit.
2. To ensure that any candidates for such a position must self-define as ginger or Strawberry Blond.
3. The words Gingerism and Gingerist are accepted as words that describe anti Ginger Behaviour.

296 Words

Proposed: Lee Paxman (VP Sports and Societies)

Seconded: Adam Clarke (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

12. MOTION SUBMITTED TO NUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE: CONSTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT

Motion Passed December 12th 2005

(Student Governing Council)

Conference Believes

1. That, many companies act or work in manner which some students would consider to be unethical or detrimental to the environment or wider society
2. That the two established ways of effecting positive change within multinationals are boycott and constructive engagement.
3. That, whilst Nestle is the most boycotted company in the world, very little has changed regarding its policy on baby milk substitutes in 30 years.
4. NUS Services Limited has had a policy of positively engaging companies for over 10 years.
5. In that time the positive engagement policy has had a number of successes, including:

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- Within 3 months of evidence coming to light that Coors has in the past funded homophobic think tanks, a public apology was received along with evidence this was no longer happening
- Lobbying of GlaxoSmithKline forced them into releasing the global patents for antiretroviral AIDS drugs
- Continued lobbying of Pepsi secured a pullout from Burma
- Two years of pressuring Coca-Cola has seen them appoint a global head of labour relations and establish a regular dialogue with the International Union of food workers (which represents the majority of Coca-Cola employees worldwide). NUS Services limited has also helped shape their global water project and is helping shape a global human rights policy

Conference Further Believes

1. That whilst in the past boycotts have had impact, recent experiences would suggest that constructive engagement is a more effective method for positively changing the behaviour and actions of multinationals.
2. That it is important for organisations representing student interests to seek to improve and develop the practises of companies who supply student unions
3. That NUS services has an important role to play in this respect
4. Boycotts often encourage organisations to 'jump on the bandwagon' without full understanding of the facts.

Conference Resolves

1. To support continuing the policy of NUS Services Limited in pursuing constructive engagement over boycott.

324 Words

Proposed: Hywel Morgan (Ordinary Member)

Seconded: Adam Clarke (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

13. STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Policy Passed 2002

(Executive Committee)

Policy Amended and renewed 15th August 2005

(Executive Committee)

Ratified 28th February 2006

(Student Governing Council)

Due to lapse February 2011

The Union Notes:

1. Students have a right to know what is happening within their Union and the local community.

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2. Over the past 7 years the Union newspaper has had a varying number of names and guises.
3. The success of the current format of the newspaper.

The Union Further Notes:

1. The improvement of lay-up technology and design ideas and capabilities in the past five years.

The Union Believes:

1. Student media, produced for students by students, encourages participation within in the Students' Union and offers opportunities for students to gain new skills and experience.
2. In order for the student newspaper to continue being a success and to allow students to gain the best possible experience it should have continuity, though it should not restrict editorial responsibility and the ability to improve the publication accordingly.
3. That the newspaper's name and title design is its identity.
4. That any further changes to the name will have detrimental effects on both the publication and the students who write and read the newspaper.
5. That a Students' Union newspaper offers a voice for students and allows students to write about 'news' which directly affects them.

The Union Resolves:

1. The Students' Union has a free newspaper to be produced three times in the 1st and 2nd semesters of the academic year and produced twice in the 3rd semester.
2. The Students' Union newspaper will be called 'Huddersfield Student' and this name stands until this policy lapses.
3. That the newspaper is produced in conjunction with Examiner News and Information Services LTD and that the agreement in place continues until such time that the policy lapses or Examiner News Services LTD or the Union wish to discontinue.
4. That the newspaper is produced by a team of unpaid students and come under the remit of the elected officer(s) whom are responsible for its production.

Proposed: Martin Rix (VP Communications)

Seconded: John Goodwin (President)

At the Student Governing Council on 2nd May 2006 an amendment was passed to add an additional resolves

5. That the University Centre Oldham and the University Centre Barnsley are growing rapidly and that this policy shouldn't restrict the creation of separate newsletters, newspapers or magazines in those centres and using different names.

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14. PARTICIPATION POLICY

Policy passed August 2005
Ratified 28th February 2006
Due to lapse February 2011

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

The Union Notes

1. Leaving university with a degree does not guarantee the graduate employment
2. That degrees are time consuming
3. Some students would rather concentrate on their degrees than participate in union activities

The Union Believes

1. That participation is important to supplement a student's degree on a CV and improve employment chances
2. Participation is an integral part of university life
3. Participation is more than just CV building
4. Participation should not affect a students' degree
5. Participation is what makes a union work

The Union resolves

1. To promote participation within the Students' Union at all levels
2. To encourage students that participating in union activities is a worth while experience
3. To advise students not to ignore their degrees whilst participating
4. To promote the idea of CV building to accompany a good degree classification

Proposed by: Martin Rix (VP Communications)

Seconded by: Adam Clarke (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

15. PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION

Passed 3rd October 2005
Policy to lapse 2010

(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

1. The constitutional provisions on the publication of information like agendas and minutes.

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2. That the issue has been raised that minutes of meeting have not always been easily understandable without access to the appropriate papers and wording of motions.

This Union Believes:

1. That it is a general principle of good practice that UHSU should be as open and transparent in its operation as possible.

This Union Resolves:

1. With regard to the publication of information relating to meetings:
 - i. That notice, time, date and location of UHSU meetings be publicised a week in advance via the UHSU website and appropriate notice boards in the Union building.
 - ii. That minutes of UHSU meeting be published as required by the constitution on the UHSU website and on appropriate notice boards in the Union building.
 - iii. That where a motion is proposed the text of the motion proposed, and any amendments proposed be included in the minutes of the meeting.
 - iv. That the proposer of any paper to an UHSU meeting provides a short summary of the proposals of the paper which can be included in the minutes of the meeting to aid clarity of the minutes.
2. With regards to UHSU policies:
 - i. That all current UHSU policies be listed on the UHSU website.
 - ii. That a section on the process for proposing a new policy for UHSU be added to the website.

This Union Further Resolves:

1. That the Executive Committee appoint a sabbatical officer with responsibility for ensuring that the above is implemented and that in particular the constitutional provisions regarding publication of information are abided by
2. That the President report back to the next Student Governing Council meeting on the process of implementing this policy

Proposed: Hwyel Morgan (Ordinary Member of SGC)

Seconded: Kirsty Thomas (Charities Officer)

16. KEEP WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS FREE

Passed 2nd May 2006
Due to lapse May 2012

(Student Governing Council)

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The Union Notes

1. That traditionally Wednesday afternoons have been kept free to enable students to participate in extra-curricular activities
2. That at the NUS Conference, delegates voted unanimously to campaign to uphold this policy
3. That the CVCP also issues guidelines to all Universities stating that they should not timetable Wednesday afternoon slots
4. That many clubs, societies, sporting and non-sporting, use Wednesday afternoons for events
5. That many BUSA matches are played on Wednesday afternoons
6. That schools within the university timetable academic work and meetings for Wednesday afternoons
7. That as a consequence of this, many sports teams cannot always field a full team
8. That there are other slots during the week that are free
9. That it is a far more competitive job market in which degrees are not a guarantee of a job

The Union Believes

1. That Wednesday afternoons should be kept completely free of teaching
2. That it is essential in order to aid student development
3. That students need extra-curricular activities to supplement their degree
4. That the timetabling of academic work and meetings is excluding students from essential recreational time.
5. That teaching can be held at other times in the week, where demand for facilities is lower, and facilities are underused
6. A good sports and societies programme is an inviting factor for prospective students who may not have come to the university.

The Union Resolves

1. To mandate the executive to convene a campaign to 'Keep Wednesday Afternoons Free'
2. To call on the University to reschedule the classes affected.
3. To call on the University to pass policy permanently forbidding all teaching on Wednesday afternoons
4. To support the NUS with any national priority campaigns regarding participation at university

Proposed by: Martin Rix (Ordinary Member SGC)

Seconded by: Mark Freeman (Union Chair)

17. ANTI-FASCISM – "UNITE TO STOP THE BNP"

Passed 17th July 2006
Ratified 2nd October 2006-10-04

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

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Due to lapse July 2011

This Union notes:

1. The BNP promote racism and violent attacks in the communities where they are active. In 1993 when a BNP councillor, Derek Beacon, was elected in Tower Hamlets, London, racist attacks increased by 300% in six months.
2. The leader of the BNP, Nick Griffin has publicly declared his ambitions for an "All White Britain", whilst their Youth Officer Mark Collett (Leeds University) has published materials outlining how the BNP can get involved in NUS, by encouraging their members to run as Sabbatical Officers, take over clubs and societies and go to NUS conference.
3. According to its constitution, the BNP "stands for the preservation of the national and ethnic character of the British people and is wholly opposed to any form of racial integration between British and non-European peoples. It is therefore committed to stemming and reversing the tide of non-white immigration and to restoring, by legal changes, negotiation and consent the overwhelmingly white makeup of the British population that existed in Britain prior to 1948".
4. In the 2006 Local Elections, the BNP doubled the number of council seats it holds, in particular in Barking and Dagenham, where it is now the second party.
5. West Yorkshire has seen BNP inspired violent attacks in the past few years as well as in Oldham, the site of one of the University of Huddersfield's external centres.
6. The Unite to stop the BNP campaign was established in 2001 as a response to the BNP's electoral strategy.

This Union further notes:

1. The British National Party policies include:
 - The ending of immigration to the UK .
 - "A massively-funded and permanent programme, using and doubling Britain's current foreign aid budget, will aim to reduce, by voluntary resettlement to their lands of ethnic origin, the proportion of ethnic minorities living in Britain".
 - The removal of all illegal immigrants.
 - The repeal of all equality and anti-discrimination legislation, including measures aimed at employing people with disabilities.
 - Restricting foreign aid to the support of countries receiving "repatriated" members of ethnic minorities. Griffin argued against giving unconditional foreign aid, including disaster aid, claiming 'charity' is not an acceptable use of public funds.
 - The reintroduction of national service and the withdrawal of some civil rights from conscientious objectors, including the right to vote.
 - The requirement that all law-abiding adults completing national service maintain a standard-issue military assault rifle and ammunition in their home.

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- The introduction of corporal punishment for petty criminals and vandals, and the introduction of capital punishment for paedophiles, terrorists and murderers.

This Union Believes:

1. The best way to combat the BNP is to demonstrate the value of, and celebrate, our diverse tolerant multicultural and democratic society. We also support the right of organisations, including our own, to democratically protect the welfare and democracy of its members.
2. That BNP activity is aimed at creating a movement of hatred and will lead to increased attacks on Muslim, Jewish, black, gay, lesbian, disabled and other minority students.
3. That since the London Bombings on the 7th of July 2005, the BNP has been party to violent revenge attacks on minority groups and has used this atrocities to promote their party and ideals.
4. Democracy is a cornerstone of the Students' Union and must be made to work effectively to ensure true representation of students' views.

The Union resolves:

1. To support the campaign to "Unite to Stop the BNP", and send a letter of support to the Coalition Against Racism.
2. To promote the Coalition within our Union and have information about the work of the Coalition and campaigning against the BNP available
3. To encourage students in particular areas, such as Oldham, to participate in the democratic process in the run up to and during elections.
4. To take action against any members of this Students' Union who incite hatred, coerce, intimidate, or use violence against any other students.
5. To re-affirm our commitment to ensure that the Students' Union is open and democratic, and that people have freedom of speech, opinion, sexuality, nationality or political belief and that Students' Union resources, funds and facilities will not be used for such purposes.
6. To ensure that accurate information on both the Union's and national political systems are available to encourage participation.
7. That any Union member who uses the Union's societies or democratic processes in a way that bring a threat to any student or group of students will have their Union membership suspended subject to due process.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

18. RESPONSE TO RACIAL ATTACK IN GOLCAR

Passed 24th July 2006

Ratified 2nd October 2006-10-04

Due to lapse July 2011

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

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This Union Notes:

1. The recent assault in Golcar that resulted in the death of Mohammed Pervaiz.
2. That is assault was racially motivated.
3. That the five arrested suspects in the attack were all under the age of 20.

This Union Believes:

1. There is an increasing negative attitude towards Asians within some areas of society, which can be attributed to recent terrorist attacks
2. There is an increasing number of attacks of this nature against people of an Asian origin through the UK, in particular in West Yorkshire.
3. That the media does not always play a positive role in educating the effects of racism.
4. That the Students' Union plays a vital role in educating our members about different cultures in and around the University and how racism is an evil that does not have a place in modern society.

This Union Condemns:

1. The recent racially inspired attacks in Golcar.

This Union Resolves:

2. To continue its dedication to the fight against racism and racist behaviour.
3. To continue to educate the student body on the different culture at the University and in Huddersfield.
4. To continue to educate the student body on the effects of racism and how it does not have a place in the Students' Union or in society.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Verne Lewis (VP Communications)

19. SABBATICAL OFFICER EMPLOYMENT

Passed 29th August 2006
Ratified 2nd October 2006-10-04
Due to lapse August 2011

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

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This Union Notes

1. Sabbatical Officers are charitable trustees of Huddersfield Students' Union.
2. A Sabbatical Officer returning as continuing students has the same entitlements as any other ordinary members.
3. A sabbatical Officer returning as a continuing student should adhere to the same regulations of the constitution as any other ordinary members.
4. That the union employs two groups of staff; student (formerly known as casual) staff, and non-student staff (whether permanent or temporary, full or part time) and both groups have the same employment rights.

This Union Believes

1. Sabbatical officers have a responsibility to our membership and themselves to act within the law, particularly charitable and employment rights.
2. A retired Sabbatical Officer returning as a non-student staff member could potentially be viewed as undermining their successor and the Executive Committee.
3. Elected Officers should not create an employed position for themselves within the Union during their time in office.
4. A retired Sabbatical officer returning as a continuing student should be treated equally as any other ordinary members.

This Union Resolves

1. That Sabbatical Officer of the University of Huddersfield Students' Union should not be employed a non-student staff members within two years of retiring from office.
2. That Sabbatical Officers of the University of Huddersfield Students' Union should be allowed to apply for student staff positions only when returning as continuing students.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Mark Freeman (VP Education and Welfare)

20. OFFICER HANDOVER

Passed 29th August 2006
Ratified 2nd October 2006-10-04
Due to lapse August 2011

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

The Union Notes:

1. That Students' Union officers are elected for a full year in office.
2. Some current and past Sabbatical officers at this Union have received little or no handover training/advice from their predecessors.
3. Well developed Students' Unions have a formal handover process
4. That the Union already provides handover training that provides the necessary knowledge of the Union and University but is not role specific.

The Union Believes:

1. That the only person 'qualified' to provide the appropriate handover for each position (role specific) is the predecessor in that position.
2. That Students' Union officers know who will succeed them at least three months before handover.
3. That a good handover:
 - Enables planning for the long-term.
 - Warns new officers of the likely problems they will face.
 - Helps the new officers hit the ground running, without having to rebuild everything every year.
4. That a bad handover can lead to
 - New officers not knowing how things work
 - New officers not knowing who they have to work with and where to find people and equipment.
 - Delayed or limited access to other forms of information that only the predecessor can assist with, such as mailing lists and hard form information.
 - The possible break-down of communication through lack of organisation.

The Union Resolves:

1. That the Students' Union reviews the handover process in time for the handover of the new officers at the end of the academic year.

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The Union Instructs:

1. That the current Students' Union officers perform a handover to their successors.
2. That the current Students' Union officers prepare a handover pack (role specific) for their successors, that can be amended and added to year by year and retained within the Union.
3. That the incoming officers perform a week long shadowing period with their predecessors.
4. That when standing for elections all candidates must agree to take part in all of the handover process.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Mark Freeman (VP Education and Welfare)

21. BULLYING

Passed 15th September 2006

Ratified 2nd October 2006-10-04

Due to lapse September 2011

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

1. The issues surrounding traditional minority/liberation groups, such as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Women, Disabled and Black students.
2. That there are still issues surrounding these traditional liberation areas though in some cases the battle could be perceived as won.
3. The issue of bullying is very rarely spoken about at University.
4. That bullying can take place for a number of reasons, for example height, weight, hair colour, visual aids, intelligence, or even physical appearance.
5. Many individuals who claimed they have been bullied say it has affected their health, caused stress, depression and in extreme cases suicide.
6. A detailed survey by the Andrea Adams Trust of 3,235 reported that 23% of the participants had been bullied for 6-12 months at their work place.
7. If a student is bullied by another on a professional course for example Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy etc it will have to be reported to the respected professional national body and their chance of practicing are taken away.

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This Union Further Notes:

1. That bullying is defined as:
 - a. A form of harassment perpetrated by someone who is in some way more powerful, physically or socially, than a weaker peer.
 - b. It is generally accepted that bullying contains three essential elements:
 - i. The behaviour is aggressive and negative
 - ii. The behaviour is carried out repeatedly
 - iii. The behaviour occurs in a relationship where there is an imbalance of power between the parties involved.
2. Research indicates that adults who bully have personalities that are authoritarian, combined with a strong need to control or dominate.
3. If an individual is of the opinion they are being bullied, then they are being bullied.

This Union Believes:

1. Bullying is an increasing problem at school level that is rising through society.
2. That bullying does not end at school and with age bullying become more psychological rather than physical.
3. Bullying causes distress that could have adverse affects on a student's education.
4. That bullying in pre-18 education can have serious results in later life that could affect a student's higher education and social development.
5. Bullying does not by-pass University

This Union Resolves:

1. To raise awareness of bullying and the affects of it.
2. To campaign against bullying and to stamp it out within the Students' Union and University.
3. That anyone caught bullying upon campus shall be subject to the appropriate disciplinary procedures.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Mark Freeman (VP Education and Welfare)

22. KEEP THE CAP ON FEES

Passed 25th September 2006
Ratified 2nd October 2006-10-04
Due to lapse September 2011

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes:

1. That the new changes to the system of higher education funding include:
 - Universities having the ability to charge variable top-up fees, up to a cap of £3,000, which the majority of institutions are charging.
 - The introduction of a means-tested maintenance grant of up to £2,700 available only to those whose parents' joint income is less than about £37,000.
 - The abolition of 'up front' tuition fees in a system that allows interest to start accruing from the start of a course.
2. That applications to universities for the academic year 2006/07 have declined by 3.5%.
3. That the cap will be reviewed by an independent commission in 2009, for which pro-fees campaigners and vice-chancellors are already lobbying to increase fees.
4. That Alan Johnson has recently claimed that students will "learn to love" top-up fees.

This Union Believes:

1. Top-up fees have already resulted in the introduction of a market in bursaries. Any lifting of the cap will lead to a market-based system of higher education.
2. Top-up fees are deterring prospective students from university, as demonstrated by the drop in applications to universities. This is particularly worrying given that recent HESA figures illustrate that many universities are failing to meet targets for widening access and for increasing the retention of students.
3. Higher education is a public service just like health and social care. Price should not be a factor in accessing it.
4. In the need for a higher education funding system which genuinely opens up access by ending student debt.

This Union Resolves:

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1. To actively campaign against proposals to lift the cap on top-up fees by calling upon MPs and the vice-chancellor to voice their concerns about increased fees.
2. To ensure that as many students as possible are aware of what the new system means, and mobilise the student body to campaign against it.
3. To fully support and organise a trip for our members to participate in the NUS demonstration in London on 29 October 2006.

Proposed: Mark Freeman (VP Education and Welfare)

Seconded: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

23. NO PLATFORM POLICY (AMMENDED VERSION)

Passed 6th November 2006

Ratified November 27th 2006

Due to lapse November 2011

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

The Union Notes:

1. That the Students' Union prides itself on the importance placed upon its ethos of equal opportunities.
2. The Union's Anti-Racism Policy (2006)
3. The Public Order Act 1986 (Section 18, regarding incitement to racial hatred), The Education Act (No.2) 1986 (Section 43, regarding freedom of speech "within the law"), and the Human Rights Act 1998 (Article 10, regarding freedom of expression).
4. Students and Students' Unions have a long, proud record of achievement in the fight against discrimination.
5. That a "No Platform Policy" is a key element in the fight against racism on campus.

This Union Believes:

1. That students have the right to equality, freedom and security.
2. Freedom of speech is a fundamental basic human right and should not be denied to anybody, unless the expression of speech threatens the human rights of any other human being.
3. The Union has a responsibility to ensure that its members feel safe in the Union and not threatened by anyone else due to their age, gender,

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disability, ethnic or racial origin, religion, nationality, politics, social background, marital status, race or sexual orientation.

4. The student movement has always fought to uphold the values of equality, and plays a pivotal role in leading the debate on issues of discrimination and equality, with the ability to influence decision-makers and raise awareness of the issues to wider society.
5. The Union should not be used to disseminate opinions which incite racial or cultural hatred and refusing to provide a platform to such people safeguards the Union's members from being subjected to lies, bigotry, hatred and violence.
6. That allowing such actions to occur on campus is a fundamental violation of student's human rights and welfare.

This Union Further Believes:

1. That some members are confused about what a no platform policy amounts to and that it should be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to inform its members on the issues surrounding a No Platform Policy.

This Union Resolves:

1. To condemn racism and fascism in every form and to introduce a "No Platform Policy" against those parties, groups and individuals who disseminate such views where giving platform would result in the incitement of racial hatred or pose a threat to those on campus.
2. That, subject to Resolution 1 above, political parties may hire the Students' Union meeting room for meetings with Students' Union members for a hire fee.
3. That political parties wishing to hire the Students' Union meeting room must put a written proposal to the Executive Committee for approval.
4. To allow members of Parliament or Government spokespeople a platform within the public areas of the Union, to answer questions on Government policy that directly affects students as students, for example tuition fees.
5. That for any members of Parliament or Government spokespeople to take such a platform a written proposal must be put to the Executive Committee for approval.
6. That Students' Union societies may book the Students' Union meeting room and invite guest speakers to speak to their society through the VP Sports and Societies.

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7. That no elected officer of the Union will knowingly speak on a platform with an individual who is known to actively promote racist or fascist views.
8. To communicate this position to the University and encourage it to take the same stance.

The Union Instructs:

5. The President, in conjunction with the other sabbatical officers, should educate the membership as to why the Union has a "No Platform Policy".

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Jason Southwell (VP Sports and Societies)

24. MOTION SUBMITTED TO NUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE: The National Health Service (NHS)

Motion Passed November 27th 2006

(Student Governing Council)

Conference Believes

1. Thousands of students training to be nurses, midwives and other health workers will not have jobs to go to when they finish their training due to the freeze on recruitment employed by the vast majority of NHS trusts.
2. Thousands of pounds worth of NHS funding has been spent on training these individuals for jobs which they are dearly needed for, in the case of midwifery there is a general shortage of midwives across the country, instead of having the recommended 1:1 ratio of midwives to women in labour it can be as many as 1:3.
3. The freeze on recruitment applies to most NHS trusts, and in combination with other measures, such as redundancies, is being used to drastically lower staffing levels on wards.

Conference Further Believes

1. The hopes and aspirations of thousands of students represented by the NUS will be dashed as a result of this short-sighted policy.
2. That refusing to employ these students when they finish their courses would also be a vast waste of NHS resources in training thousands of vitally needed. It costs up to £60,000 each to train a midwife.
3. Where staffing levels are low, the quality of service will be much lower due to NHS staff being overstretched. A recent piece of research showed that wards with low levels of nurses had 26% higher patient mortality rates, and that nurses were also more likely to 'burn out' when staffing levels were low.

Conference Resolves

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1. To organise a national campaign, in conjunction with the health trade unions, to win trainee nurses, midwives and other potential NHS staff the jobs they were promised when they began their courses
2. To call upon the TUC to further develop their NHS Together campaign into a mass campaign fighting for the resources the NHS needs to be a first class health service, including naming the day for a national demonstration.
3. To call upon the government to underwrite the NHS deficit.

Proposed: Iain Dalton (Campaigns Officer)

Seconded: Craig Dillon (Ordinary Member of SGC)

25. MOTION SUBMITTED TO NUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE:

Bullying

Motion Passed November 27th 2006

(Student Governing Council)

Conference Believes:

1. Bullying is an increasing problem at school level that is rising through society.
2. That bullying does not end at school and with age bullying become more psychological rather than physical.
3. Bullying causes distress that could have adverse affects on a student's education.
4. That bullying in pre-18 education can have serious results in later life that could affect a student's higher education and social development.
5. Bullying does not by-pass University
6. The issue of bullying is very rarely spoken about at University.
7. That bullying can take place for a number of reasons, for example height, weight, hair colour, visual aids, intelligence, or even physical appearance.
8. Many individuals who claimed they have been bullied say it has affected their health, caused stress, depression and in extreme cases suicide
9. If a student is bullied by another on a professional course for example Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy etc it will have to be reported to the respected professional national body and their chance of practicing are taken away.

Conference Further Believes:

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1. That bullying is defined as:
 - a. A form of harassment perpetrated by someone who is in some way more powerful, physically or socially, than a weaker peer.
 - b. It is generally accepted that bullying contains three essential elements:
 - i. The behaviour is aggressive and negative
 - ii. The behaviour is carried out repeatedly
 - iii. The behaviour occurs in a relationship where there is an imbalance of power between the parties involved.
2. Research indicates that adults who bully have personalities that are authoritarian, combined with a strong need to control or dominate.
3. A detailed survey by the Andrea Adams Trust of 3,235 reported that 23% of the participants had been bullied for 6-12 months at their work place.
4. There is no part of the law that specifically covers bullying.
5. Most bullying cases are taken to court through 1997's Protection from harassment Act. The same act which takes tabloid newspaper's mean campaigns and the behaviour of animal rights activists are disciplined in court.

Conference Resolves:

1. To condone bullying in all its forms
2. To raise awareness of bullying and the affects of it through a national campaign
3. To add the responsibility to promoting awareness of bullying to an existing NEC officer remit
4. To hold an annual 'bullying awareness' day, either nationally or regionally for Union officers to attend

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)
Seconded: Ellen Ward (Disabilities Officer)

26. MOTION SUBMITTED TO NUS NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Campaign To Defeat Fees

Motion Passed November 27th 2006

(Student Governing Council)

Conference Believes

1. That the UCAS figures released show that thousands of students have been prevented from going to university by the introduction of top-up fees this autumn.

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2. That many of the students on the 29 October demonstration were marching not just to "keep the cap" on top up fees, but against all fees and for free education.
3. That the anger of this march needs to be channelled into building a movement in universities, colleges and sixth forms for free education.
4. That fees can be defeated through the building of a mass movement of students linking up with the trade unions to force the government to find alternative ways to fund education.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the occupations, demonstrations and canteen boycotts against the affects of cuts, closures and privatisation last year showed that students are willing to fight back where a lead is given and will do the same over the issue of fees.

Conference Resolves:

1. To build the Campaign to Defeat Fees on every campus working with all activists, other local student unions, students in FE colleges and sixth forms and trade unions.
2. To call a national demonstration after this national conference on a weekday before the exam period which is properly built for under the slogan "no to all fees, fight for free education".
3. To organise action on every campus including well publicised meetings, protests, publicise the campaign widely with posters, leaflets and regular stalls on campus and outside schools and colleges.

Proposed: Iain Dalton (Campaigns Officer)

Seconded: Craig Dillon (Ordinary Member of SGC)

27. SPORTS CLUBS AND SOCIETIES CONSTITUIONS

Passed 4th December 2006

Ratified 22nd January 2007

Due to lapse December 2011

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes

1. Sports clubs and societies are run by students for students, not by the sabbatical officers.
2. That funding for these sports and societies comes from the Students' Union.
3. That sports clubs and societies in Students' Unions nationwide have successfully introduced constitutions.

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This Union Believes

1. That the sabbatical officers need to know who is in charge of what area in each sports club and society.
2. That sports clubs and societies need guidelines to follow from year to year.
3. That this consistency will help the sports clubs and societies to grow over the next five years.
4. That a constitution will enable this growth to take place.
5. That a constitution will enable sports club and society members to hold their club and society officers to account.

This Union Resolves

1. That all sports clubs and societies should introduce a constitution.
2. This constitution must be approved by the Students' Union's VP Sports and Societies.

This Union Instructs

1. The VP Sports and Societies to explain the reasoning behind the introduction of a constitution to sports clubs and societies' Presidents and to implement the introduction of the constitutions
2. The VP Sports and Societies to store a copy of the sports clubs and societies constitutions centrally in the Students' Union and to place a file on the Union website for all sports club and society members to have access too.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

28. FAIR TRADE

Passed 4th December 2006
Ratified 22nd January 2007
Due to lapse December 2011

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes

1. That the University of Huddersfield Students' Union is committed to supporting, using and promoting Fair Trade.

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2. That to gain Fair Trade status, University of Huddersfield Students' Union must achieve the five goals outlined by the Fair Trade Foundation.

This Union Believes:

1. That the University of Huddersfield Students' Union should continue to promote Fair Trade organisations, their work and also their products.
2. That the goals outlined by the Fair Trade Foundation amount to a consent to promote Fair Trade, increase the availability of Fair Trade products and expand the range of Fair Trade products available on campus.
3. That NUSSL's range of Fair Trade products is limited by the number of companies it deals with and that the range of Fair Trade products on offer is inadequate to allow UHSU to achieve 'This Union Believes 2'.

This Union Resolves:

1. To mandate NUSSL to expand the range of Fair Trade products available to UHSU shop by approving a greater number of Fair Trade suppliers.
2. If 'This Union Resolves 1' cannot be achieved, to approach Fair Trade suppliers independently of NUSSL in order to introduce and make available Fair Trade alternatives to certain products, such as coca cola.
3. To urge the University to become more proactive in the process of gaining Fair Trade status.
4. To campaign and promote the need to support Fair Trade on campus.

This Union Instructs

1. The VP Finance and Commercial Services to co-ordinate 'This Union Resolves 1-4'.

Proposed: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

Seconded: Martin Rix (President)

29. ENVIRONMENTAL AND ETHICS

Passed 30th January 2007

Ratified 12th March 2007

Due to lapse January 2012

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

The Union Notes

1. The Road Traffic Reduction (UK Targets) Bill, originally required the Government to cut Traffic levels by 10% on 1990 levels by 2010 and to get lorries off roads and freight onto rail and boost public transport.
2. Scientists are warning that rising temperatures from global warming are damaging the fragile Arctic systems that wildlife and northern communities, such as the United Kingdom, rely on.

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3. As tropical forests contain at least half of the Earth's species, the clearance of some 17 million hectares each year is causing a dramatic loss of biodiversity.
4. We consume products that systematically pollute the environment and which use huge amounts of energy and create unnatural persistent substances such as toxins in the process. 25 per cent of the population consumes about 75 per cent of the world's natural resources.
5. Some banks are still responsible for impoverishing developing countries through debt collection. To date British banks have not fully developed a credible Ethical and Environmental Code of Conduct governing all their banking services.
6. A number of companies such as Nestlé, Shell in Nigeria, Bacardi and GAP, are engaged in unethical trade practices. For example, Nestlé and Wyeth two of the World's largest producers of powdered baby milk, are currently breaking a World Health Organisation Code on the marketing of breast milk substitutes.
7. That the Students' Union currently does not have an officer dedicated to promoting Environmental and Ethical issues both at a Union level as well as at a national level.
8. The Union's Fair Trade policy (2006)

The Union Believes

1. We cannot continue to consume resources in the same manner without seriously damaging the environment that supports us, as well as the existence of future generations.
2. Positive solutions to the problems that we face do exist, in forms such as organic farming, renewable energy technology, Fair Trade, "green" taxes, the rebirth of local communities, and sustainable transport plans, amongst others.
3. British banks and businesses should develop credible Ethical and Environmental Codes of Conduct, governing all their practices.
4. Nestlé is still responsible for the aggressive marketing of its baby milk products in the Third World, and is still the subject of an international boycott supported by NUS. Other companies are still also subject to national boycotts for similar unethical practices, such as GAP and Shell.
5. The current political climate is not responding adequately to the challenge of sustainable levels of consumption and development to solve global problems of inequality, poverty, hunger, human rights abuses and environmental destruction.
6. That the purchase of ethical and environmental friendly products, including frailly traded goods, over their less ethical counterparts is the best way forward.
7. As students, we are in an excellent position to promote positive solutions to the ecological challenges we face.

The Union Resolves

1. To raise awareness amongst students of the issues of ethical finance and ethical career decisions.

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2. To ensure the Union is ethical in its decision-making process, in its day-to-day workings, and in its business relationships with organisations and its purchasing decisions and to lobby the University to do the same.
3. To support an Environment and Ethics Collective, responsible for involving the students and Union societies in the organisation and running of the campaign.
4. To strongly oppose all forms of discrimination and to support relevant anti-discrimination and equality campaigns within the Union.
5. To introduce the role of Environmental and Ethics Officer as a non-sabbatical post for the 2007 general elections
6. To also assign the role of co-ordinating the awareness raising and campaigning for all of the above to a sabbatical officer

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

30. STUDENTS AT WORK

Passed 30th January 2007

(Executive Committee)

Ratified 12th March 2007

(Student Governing Council)

Due to lapse January 2012

This Union Notes

1. Over two thirds of students now have to work to support themselves through University because of the negative affects of tuition fees and student debt.
2. One fifth of students who work while at University undertake 20 hours of work to support themselves on a full time University course
3. That students from the lowest two socio-economic groups statistically work longer for a lower hourly rate than their colleagues from higher socio-economic social groups, earning less money despite working longer hours
4. That many students, especially international students, work alone or in small work places, with little knowledge of their rights at work and not in their language
5. That student employment is concentrated in retail and hospitality, two of the lowest paying sectors of the economy
6. It is reported by the TUC that in the retail and hospitality sectors, the average wage of part-time male workers is £6.21 and £5.70 respectively and the average wage of female workers is £5.98 and £5.51 respectively
7. NUS has started a working relationship with the TUC to help protect students at work.

This Union Believes

1. That students should work in a safe environment where they are properly inducted, know their rights and can access support in the work place

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2. Trade Unions are ideally placed to support students in the work place to fight for increased pay, better health and safety and knowledge of their rights at work
3. That by encouraging students to join trade unions, they are given access to their rights a work and helps them get involved in the democracy and campaigns of like minded organisations.
4. That any gender pay gap is unacceptable and leaves students in higher levels of debt and means they have to work more hours distracting them further from their studies.

This Union Resolves

1. To work with TUC affiliated Unions by supporting their actions through listing links on the Union website and making them aware of booking dates/information for Freshers' and Refreshers' Fayres.
2. To encourage students to join Trade Unions by making information available to them.
3. To work with the NUS Trade Union Partnerships Project to see how the Students' Union can work with Trade Unions and support students at work.
4. To encourage students to notify the Students' Union and subsequently the TUC on issues within their workplace.
5. To support campaigns to fight any gender pay gaps.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

31. 'NARROWING' PARTICIPATION

Passed 12th February 2007

Ratified 12th March 2007

Policy to lapse February 2012

(Executive Committee)

(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes

1. That the current UCAS system allows University admission tutors to know the name, address, school, GCSE results and predicted A-level results of candidates.
2. That according to the Daily Telegraph, from next year (2008), students wishing to attend University will have to declare if their parents attended University and obtained a degree.
3. That the new system will also provide information on whether the candidate has been in local authority care and attended any University preparation courses.
4. The Government has spent nearly £350 million to increase student numbers of those from poorer backgrounds.

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5. That Universities have argued that if they are to be judged on how successful they are at targeting under-represented groups, they need detailed information about the family background.

This Union Believes

1. That widening participation is an excellent and important scheme that will strengthen Universities nationwide, as well as create a diverse population upon campus.
2. That the current information obtained by UCAS is all that should be considered when candidates apply to enter University
3. That the Government's answer of ploughing money into widening participation has not effect on the middle class domination of places
4. That University entry should only be decided on the Students ability to learn.
5. That this new system will lead to Universities considering candidates quality of life rather than their quality of grade.
6. That potential students should not be disadvantaged by their parent's income or history, whether it is due to being from a poorer or a richer background.

This Union Condemns

1. The proposed changes by UCAS as it will prove detrimental to the University admissions process, disadvantaging students even further.

This Union Resolves

1. To campaign against the changes proposed by UCAS
2. To encourage NUS to take the same stance.
3. To lobby our University to take the same and reject the proposed change.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Mark Freeman (VP Education and Welfare)

32. OFFICER ELECT

Passed 12th February 2007
Ratified 12th March 2007
Policy to lapse February 2012

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

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This Union Notes

1. That the term of office for a University of Huddersfield Students' Union (UHSU) elected officer is 12 calendar months
2. That the official handover takes place annually in July.
3. The two week officer training prior to the handover.
4. That officers elect are still studying students during the run up to the handover process, in particular final year students.

This Union Believes

1. That for an officer to have good knowledge of the UHSU, they must be involved with many aspects of Union activity prior to the official handover.
2. That officers need to hit the ground running and any extra knowledge gained before handover is vital for this.
3. That summer training is there for theory but practical experience is needed for an effective handover.

This Union Instructs

1. All officers elect to attend Student Governing Council meetings during the term prior to the official handover.
2. All officers elect to attend any General Meeting following the election, prior to the official handover.
3. All Sabbatical and Non-sabbatical officers' elect to attend and shadow their predecessor at University meetings considered pivotal to the role, if their course commitments allow.
4. The President elect to attend the final NUS Regional Conference of the academic year as a member of the delegation.
5. That from the academic year 2007/08 the President elect shall attend the NUSSL Convention, along with the current President, as a member of the delegation.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

33. HALLS OF RESIDENCE SAFETY

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Passed 12th February 2007
Ratified 12th March 2007
Policy to lapse February 2012

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes

1. That the University does not own any halls of residence.
2. That since 2003, rent prices for halls of residence have risen by 23% on a national level.
3. That over the past year there has been;
7 burglaries at Storthes Hall, 6 caught.
16 burglaries at Snow Island, 12 caught.
6 burglaries at Firth Point, none caught.
4. That some halls have senior residents who work for the halls, as well as residents' committees.

This Union Believes

1. That despite not owning any halls, a high standard of halls are in the University's best interests in terms of recruiting and retention.
2. That as accommodation prices rise, so should the standard of the accommodation.
3. That there may be many burglaries and break-ins that have not been reported.
4. That student safety and welfare is of the highest importance.
5. That the growing cost of attending University will affect some students judgements of where to live.
6. That the senior residents, as employees, are not able to speak out against the halls as openly.

The Union Resolves

1. To campaign to the University and the halls of residence to improve the standard of the Halls and the level of security.
2. To introduce a new Halls Representative programme for the academic year 2007/08, to be co-ordinated by the VP Internal Affairs

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Mark Freeman (VP Education and Welfare)

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34. NUS Extra

Passed 19th February 2007
Ratified 12th March 2007
Policy to lapse February 2012

(Executive Committee)
(Student Governing Council)

This Union Notes

1. That the NUS Extra Card was nationally rolled out in the summer of 2006
2. That the NUS Extra Card costs £10
3. That for each NUS Extra card purchased £4 will go back into the Students' Union
4. That NUS Extra was £667,000 under budget as of January 2007.
5. That three consecutive Executive Committees has opposed the NUS Extra card
6. That the Executive Committee (2005/06) made a political decision to have the NUS Extra available to purchase online only.
7. The sales of the Students' Union Student Plus card have been 3,030 as of January 2007, over twice the amount needed to break even.
8. The Students' Union Student Plus card, for half the price of a NUS Extra Card, gives the majority of the same discounts, plus savings within our own building.

This Union Believes

1. That the NUS Extra card has not been as successful as NUS expected
2. There has been some confusion amongst some local companies with the introduction of the NUS Extra Card.
3. That the Students' Union Students' Union should continue to support the NUS Extra through the remote online, so as to give its members a choice
4. That the Students' Union Student Plus card is more relevant to students in the Huddersfield area.
5. That the Students' Union Student Plus card is a programme that should be continued to build upon the success and reputation it has gathered in its first year

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This Union Resolves

1. To continue to administer the NUS Extra card through the online remote system
2. To continue the Students' Union Student Plus Card programme and not to raise the price of the card so that it always remains a cheaper option than the NUS Extra card.

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

35. FAIR TRADE UNIFORMS

Passed 19th March 2007
Policy to lapse March 2012

(Executive Committee)

This Union Notes

1. That the University of Huddersfield Students' Union is committed to supporting, using and promoting Fair Trade.

This Union Believes

1. That to broaden our support of Fair Trade we could instruct that all sabbatical and non-sabbatical uniform t-shirts must be provided from Fair Trade suppliers.

This Union Instructs

1. That from the year start 07/08 all sabbatical and non-sabbatical uniform t-shirts must be provided by Fair Trade suppliers.

Proposed: Marcus Woolcock (VP Finance and Commercial Services)

Seconded: Jason Southwell (VP Sports and Societies)

36. MYSPACE AND FACEBOOK

Passed 26th March 2007
Policy to lapse March 2012

(Executive Committee)

This Union Notes

1. The University of Huddersfield's Freedom of Expression policy
2. The University of Huddersfield's Harassment policy

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3. That conversations taking place on sites such as Myspace and Facebook are not regulated.

This Union Believes

1. That the internet is a free space for the exchange of ideas, opinions and beliefs
2. That internet social networking sites, such as Myspace and Facebook, exist to exchange these ideas and to allow friends and relatives to contact each other
3. That these sites are conversations just like any that would take place anywhere else in society.
4. That comments left on Myspace pages are not written by the owners but by other members of the site
5. That any attempts to monitor, censor and discipline students over the content of their Myspace is a breach of their freedom of expression.
6. That comments on Myspace are easily misinterpreted and can lead to misunderstandings.
7. That students have spoken to the Students' Union with worries that lecturers checking internet social networking pages will have this in mind whilst marking work.

This Union Resolves

1. To campaign against any University attempts to monitor and/or censor any student's internet social networking site pages.
2. To campaign against any University attempts to discipline members solely over the content of their internet social networking site pages, when the owners are simply expressing a view, unless under the circumstances outlined under Resolves 3 below.
3. To condemn any student that uses their pages to harass other students or staff or for any sexist, racist, homophobic or xenophobic comments

Proposed: Martin Rix (President)

Seconded: Mark Freeman (VP Education and Welfare)