



University of Leicester Students' Union Lapsing Policy 2024/2025



If you have any queries regarding any of the policies or wish to get involved with the ongoing implementation of the policies email su-voice@le.ac.uk.

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Wasted Food

Renewal Date: 2024/25

This Union Notes:

1. That a significant amount of food produced by the Students' Union's commercial outlets is wasted each week due to not being purchased before the sell-by date.
2. That a significant amount of food ordered for Students' Union events is wasted.
3. That the use of food banks is at a 'record number'.

This Union Believes:

- That wasted food is a bad thing, and that when possible, should be avoided.
- That no-one should have to go hungry because of the circumstances they find themselves in.

This Union Resolves:

1. To mandate the Campaigns and Involvement Officer to implement a regular food collection scheme similar to the one during the up-coming Go Green Week.
2. To mandate the Union Development Officer to meet with the managers of the Students' Union commercial outlets to discuss food wastage.
3. To mandate the Campaigns and Involvement Officer to work with local charities to provide those who cannot afford food with the otherwise wasted SU commercial food.
4. To mandate the Campaigns and Involvement Officer to investigate supporting the 'Enough Food IF' campaign.
5. To introduce a responsible food usage policy for Students' Union events.

Proposed By: Michael Rubin, Officer without Portfolio – Social Sciences & Social Sciences College Rep

Boycott The Sun Newspaper until Page 3 is removed

Renewal Date: 2024/25

This Union Notes:

1. There is a national campaign to remove Page 3 from The Sun Newspaper.
2. Over 29 Universities have boycotted The Sun until Page 3 is removed. These include: LSE, UCL, Manchester Met, Manchester University, Chester, Abertay, Birmingham City, Edinburgh, York St John, Dundee, Stirling, Cardiff, Durham, Sheffield, Newcastle, Essex, Cambridge University, University of East Anglia, Brasenose College, St Hugh's College, New College, University College and St Edmund Hall, Oxford.¹
3. There is currently a campus campaign backing No More Page 3 with over 720 signatures.
4. Sexpression also back this campaign
5. The Irish Sun no longer have Page 3.
6. Since Page 3's inception (1970), only 5 women of colour have been represented. That's 5 out of over 2000 articles.
7. Until 2003, 16 year olds posed semi-naked for Page 3.
8. The Sun is a family newspaper.
9. Children can see Page 3.
10. Ex-glamour models support the No More Page 3 campaign.²
11. Government-commissioned Sexualisation of Young People Review, Dr Linda Papadopoulos, February 2010:
There is 'a clear link between consumption of sexualised images, a tendency to view women as objects and the acceptance of aggressive attitudes and behaviour as the norm'.³
12. Amongst many charities, the No More Page 3 national campaign is supported by charity, Zero Tolerance.

This Union Believes:

1. In promoting equality amongst students and does not promote/reinforce/tolerate sexism and misogyny any more than it should racism or homophobia.
2. Students should feel safe and comfortable in an environment of education.
3. The support of students is essential in achieving an equal working environment.
4. When SU speaks up together they can influence national issues.
5. The Sun eroticizes violence against women. Case: Reeve Steenkamp placed on Page 1, scantily clad, the day she was murdered by her partner Oscar Pistorius. She was not named, merely referred to as 'girlfriend of' and 'Pistorius' Lover'. This case is not held in isolation.

¹ <http://nomorepage3.org/news/students-no-more-page-3-needs-you/>

² <http://nomorepage3.org/news/comments-from-ex-topless-models/>

³ <http://dera.ioe.ac.uk/10738/1/sexualisation-young-people.pdf>

6. The Sun promotes sexual violence/casual objectification of women. Personal stories of rape and humiliation spurred on by Page 3 can be found here:
<http://page3stories.org/category/stories/>
7. Page 3 promotes one, very limited view of women and beauty.

This Union Resolves:

1. To boycott The Sun from all retail outlets in the union until Page 3 is removed from the paper.
2. To ask the University to back the National campaign.
3. To actively support a campaign around women's objectification in the media, including No More Page 3.
4. Elicit support from future NUS delegates to back any action on No More Page 3 at national conference.
5. We are not BANNING The Sun. We are BOYCOTTING it until Page Three is removed.

Black Role Models

Renewal Date: 2024/25

This Union Notes:

1. That racism occurs in the UK and across Europe.
2. That the UK media routinely victimises immigrants and people of colour.
3. That political parties that base the ideology on fascism are on the rise across the UK and Europe and that these organisations blame the loss of prosperity on the influx of immigrants.
4. Mainstream politicians and political party's priorities changing to speaking aggressively about immigration and thus targeting black people for the ills of society and economy.
5. Through such a divisive discourse it is evident that black people have formed the target of a wide range of aspects of society as being a negative contributor.
6. The culmination of all of the above factors resulting in the rise of Far Right Political Parties at the European Elections.

This Union Believes:

1. Positive role models of Black people and leaders needs to be expressed to the current generation of decision makers.
2. The history and context of the struggle for equal rights for people of colour such as the Civil Rights Movement in America and the Anti-Apartheid movement in South Africa is provided.
3. The issue of racism needs to be explained again to a whole new generation that has been exposed to a Far Right discourse so that a balanced view may be more evident as a result.
4. Talk is easy so significant and institutional steps need to be taken to provide regular and physical reminders of positive images and role models for students, staff, partners and visitors to the University of Leicester Students' Union.

This Union Resolves:

1. To mandate the BAME Officer to organise and promote a week long commemoration of Black History Month.
2. To mandate all the Executive Officers to promote this event.

To support the campaign for DSA

Renewal Date:2024/25

This Union Notes:

1. Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) are a non means-tested financial help for UK domiciled disabled students.
2. To receive DSA, students must prove they have a disability or long-term health condition, a mental health condition, or a specific learning disability such as dyslexia or dyspraxia.
3. In 2013, there were 215,370 disabled students in the UK, which represents 8.6% of all higher education students. However, only a minority (46%) of disabled students receive DSA.
4. Expenditure on DSA is already decreasing.
5. That we have 1472 students at the University of Leicester that are registered as disabled.
6. The NUS has begun a campaign to lobby MPs about these proposals.
7. The University of Leicester Students' Union has already worked with Leicester College to get students to sign the following petition: http://www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/the-government-leicester-students-against-disabled-students-allowance-dsa-cuts?share_id=bhhDlevJLv&utm_campaign=autopublish&utm_medium=facebook&utm_source=share_petition
8. Currently we have had over 2000 people sign our 'Leicester students against DSA cuts' petition.
9. On Friday 30th May there was an event at the Clock Tower in which students talked with local people and asked them to sign the petition.
10. On Friday 30th May we also got Jon Ashworth MP to sign the petition.

This Union Believes:

1. The announced changes to the DSA will jeopardize disabled students' access and success in higher education.
2. The loss of funding for specialist IT equipment and non-medical help threatens to make University a non-viable option for many disabled students who already face important financial difficulties.
3. Disabled students' number one priority in choosing a University is access. Cutting DSA will offer less viable options for disabled students.
4. The circumstance of an individual's birth should not define their chances in life and that this Union is committed to retaining DSA because without it Disabled students will struggle to get the same grades as non-disabled students.
5. No matter what a student's race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, or financial situation every individual should have the same life chances as everyone else and that any changes in government policy which negatively affect social mobility must be challenged.

This Union Resolves:

1. To support the NUS campaign against the changes to the DSA.
2. To lobby MPs and to encourage students to lobby MPs to sign our petition.
3. To work with other groups and educational institutions in order to stop the changes to the DSA.

Workers' Rights Consortium

Renewal Date: 2024/25

James Farndon, Campaigns and Involvement Officer

Notes

- The Workers' Rights Consortium monitors the supply chain of garments for institutions
- This monitoring helps tackle the exploitation of workers, including unfair and dangerous working conditions, the prevention of Unions.
- In April 2010 the WRC exposed Nike for failing to pay redundancy money to its employees. Through universities engaging with the company, Nike agreed to pay its redundant employees the wages they were legally owed.
- In 2011 WRC reports exposed several university suppliers for not paying the minimum wage in India to over 100,000 garment workers, which forced the Indian government to enforce minimum wages in the sector.
- 10 UK Universities have already affiliated with the WRC, including Edinburgh, Cardiff and Sheffield with others such as Swansea Union currently pressuring their institutions to.
- The University of Leicester Students' Union is currently affiliated with Workers Rights' Consortium through NUS along with 82 other Student Unions.
- A recent People and Planet Society campaign saw over 300 students call on the University to affiliate.

Believes

- That Higher Education Institutions have a social and ethical responsibility to ensure no one is exploited in delivering their aims.
- The Workers' Rights Consortium is currently the most effective method of monitoring procurement of garments.

Resolves

- To lobby the University to affiliate with the Worker's Rights Consortium.
- For the Students Union to affiliate with the Worker's Rights Consortium independently if for whatever reason it was no longer affiliated through NUS.

References:

- <http://blog.peopleandplanet.org/2010/04/nike-just-pay-it-the-worker-rights-consortium-in-action/>
- <http://peopleandplanet.org/WRCFAQ>
- <http://peopleandplanet.org/navid13694>

Leafleting during Elections

Renewal Date: 2024/25

This Union Notes:

1. That there is currently no leafleting allowed in the Students' Union Building.
2. Before an election the Students' Union's Executive meet up to decide whether to temporarily allow leafleting for the duration of the election process.
3. With the present apathy surrounding elections, if candidates are not allowed to leaflet in the Students' Union building, less people would engage with the election process.
4. That this is not a very green policy.

This Union Believes:

1. That it is important to strive for a high turnout.
2. That leafleting allows candidates to reach more students.
3. That the Executive allow leafleting during elections anyway; a policy from Council ensures it always remains that way.
4. That leafleting in the Union is not the best or the only way to engage with the student body during an election campaign; however it contributes and remains important.
5. That appropriate steps should be taken to limit the impact on the environment.

This Union Resolves:

1. To allow leafleting in the Percy Gee Building, during cross campus Union-wide election campaigns.
2. For those running the elections to work hard to ensure that all leaflets are recycled.

To make exams fairer for all by implementing an 'exams48' policy

Renewal Date: 2024/25

Proposed by: Ryan O'Hare, Webmaster

This Union Notes:

1. Many students face relentless examinations during both exam periods, this impacts on physical and mental wellbeing as well as exam performance.
2. Last year's 2nd year Economics students had 5 exams in one week, during a 3 week long exam period. This is despite the fact that most Economics module grades are 100% based on exam performance.
3. Media students had 3 exams in 2 days this January, during the 2 week exam period.
4. Giving some students extra time than usual between exams will inevitably mean some students have less time between exams, however it will make examination periods fairer for all.

This Union Believes:

1. Exams should be a test of knowledge, not stamina.
2. That every student deserves a minimum of 48 hours between each examination they face, in order to mentally rest and recover.
3. The university should agree with us that every student deserves the same chance of success, and especially those whose degree class is solely decided on exam results should be enabled to achieve their best performance.

This Union Proposes:

1. That the policy of our Students' Union should be 'exams48', to give every student a fair and equal chance of success.
2. Mandate the Academic Affairs officer to prioritise achieving this goal for the January exams, to lobby the university to implement this guarantee, and to report back to council on the progress at the penultimate council meeting of the term, or earlier.
3. Mandate the Camps and Invs officer to investigate making this a priority campaign for next year and to report his decision to council at the penultimate council meeting of term, or earlier.

Digitizing All Required and Suggested Readings

Renewal Date: 2024/25

This Union Notes:

1. That the University library already has e-books listed in their catalogue so the digital technology is already present and being used.
2. Many books that are in high demand for classes can be incredibly hard to find in the library due to limited copies and are unavailable as e-books.
3. There are e-books that are available with restrictions to how long a student has visibility to it. Also, some e-books still require the student to pay to copy certain chapters or print certain sections for use in their studies.

This Union Believes:

1. That in this digital era the technology has moved forward enough to have most resources digitized and that the University should provide students a choice on how they would prefer their format of the core material. Also, that all suggested readings be available in the library as a digital option to allow for more students to have the resources they need readily available to them.
2. That any additional costs for the digital conversion or access to any digital material be covered by the university and not forwarded to the student.
3. That all digital material be readily available for all students and can be checked out for the same amount of time as a hard copy book would be.

This Union Resolves:

1. To support and campaign for the introduction of all required or suggested textbooks being available digitally either from the library or department of the student's major.
2. To mandate the Education and Distance Learning Officers to lobby the University to implement a required digitizing of all required and suggested reading material for studies as detailed above.

Support for the Prescription Charges Coalition

Renewal Date: 2024/25

This Union Notes:

1. In England, the current charge of one item of prescription medication on the NHS stands at £7.85.
2. Some English people are exempt from paying prescription charges on the grounds of having certain long-term health conditions such as cancer.
3. Most long-term health conditions however do not qualify the sufferer for a prescription charge exemption. These conditions include (but are not limited to): HIV, asthma, Crohn's disease, long-term mental health conditions, and cystic fibrosis.
4. The Prescription Charges Coalition is a group of healthcare charities who are lobbying the government to extend prescription charge exemption to all people with long-term health conditions.
5. The Prescription Charges Coalition conducted an investigation published in 2014. Their findings included facts such as: 37% of those surveyed stated that the cost of their medication prevented them from taking it correctly, and 74% of that group explained that

this impacted on their ability to work. 35% of those surveyed who paid for each individual prescription item had not collected medication because of the cost.

6. An earlier study by the Prescription Charges Coalition resulted in similar findings. Verbatim answers included statements such as : “I have used money allocated for gas and electricity and put these on emergency credit so that I could have my prescriptions”, “I have had a couple of days off work to save the cost of petrol as I could not afford both.”, “I constantly worry over money especially having two small children to care for, we never have new clothes or any treats, I struggle to pay for little things for my child’s school even the £2 school disco.”, and ““I have had to borrow money to get them”.
7. Other similar research echoes the difficulties faced by people with long-term medical problems who are not exempt from paying prescription charges. For example, research by Rethink Mental Illness revealed that 38% of people with severe mental health problems have had to choose between buying their medication or paying household bills. Citizens Advice Bureau also found that in 2007 over 800,000 people in England failed to collect a prescription medicine because of the cost involved in doing so.

This Union Believes:

1. That access to free healthcare is a basic human right.
2. That the current prescription charges scheme particularly places an unfair burden on those with chronic health conditions and disabilities who as a result regularly require prescriptions.
3. Disabled people should never be unable to access their medication due to cost and that when they do this results in negative implications for society as a whole because their health may deteriorate further resulting in even more costly hospital stays and the inability to work.
4. Students of our union, particularly those with long-term health conditions, would benefit from further support and advice with regards to affording their prescription medication.

This Union Resolves:

1. To publicly support the Prescription Charges Coalition including raising awareness of the research it has done.
2. To mandate the relevant executive officer to write to the Prescription Charges Coalition to express our support as a Union for their campaign.
3. To mandate the relevant executive officer to e-mail our local MP(s) to ask them for their public support of the campaign using the template provided by the Prescription Charges Coalition.
4. To further publicise the existing opportunities for students to acquire partial or total exemption from prescription charges, and to mandate the relevant executive officer to inquire about the possibility of having the relevant forms on campus for people to fill out, ideally at big events such as Fresh Fair and to include information on how to apply for a Prescription Pre-Payment Certificate.

References

- ‘Paying the Price – Prescription Charges and Employment’, the Prescription Charges Coalition, February 2014.
http://www.prescriptionchargescoalition.org.uk/uploads/1/2/7/5/12754304/prescription_charges_and_employment_report_feb_2014.pdf
- ‘Paying the Price – Prescription Charges and People with Long-Term Health Conditions’, the Prescription Charges Coalition, March 2013.

http://www.prescriptionchargescoalition.org.uk/uploads/1/2/7/5/12754304/paying_the_price_report.pdf

- <http://www.prescriptionchargescoalition.org.uk/>
- <http://e-activist.com/ea-action/action?ea.client.id=66&ea.campaign.id=19432>

Listing the full ingredients on all products in the Library Café and Delicious

Renewal Date: 2024/25

Free From Society

Overview

Currently, if you were to buy a sandwich from either Delicious or the Library Café, you would find that not all the ingredients in these products are listed. The products in both these cafes may say if they are Gluten Free, Vegan or Vegetarian, but they do not list every ingredient. This makes it difficult for students and staff with allergies and intolerances to be absolutely sure of what they are eating. The Free From society would like products in all campus outlets to have a full list of ingredients clearly labelled on each product. Failing this, a product booklet with ingredients listed which would be easily available for students to consult would at least be progress.

Facts:

1. Nearly 1 in 5 of the UK population consider themselves to have either a food allergy or a food intolerance.
2. The Free From society at the University is a new society this year which has been set up for those with dietary requirements.
3. By Law, food products which are packaged by the shop itself or are sold loose, must say if they contain any of the following allergens: celery, cereals, crustaceans, eggs, fish, lupin, milk, molluscs, mustard, nuts, peanuts, sesame seeds, soya beans or sulphur dioxide.

Opinions:

1. The Union should wish to cater for all its members without possibly causing illness because of bad labelling.
2. As a Coeliac UK accredited University, the Union should carry on its commitment to providing for all allergies and intolerances, not just the common ones. For example, some Coeliacs can eat oats whereas some can't; it is unclear at the moment whether the products labelled 'gluten free' would be suitable for those Coeliacs who can't eat oats.
3. The Union should give support to the new Free From Society who, new this year, are able to highlight issues surrounding food allergies which may previously have been overlooked or not raised.

Actions/Outcomes:

1. The Union should actively take part in discussions with the Free From Society and the management of these Catering Outlets to discuss the possible solutions.
2. We would like these outlets to provide clear labelling of all ingredients used on every product so that students and staff with food requirements can make safe choices.
3. If it becomes clear that labelling can't be done, then a booklet should be provided at each catering outlet which can be easily accessible for students and which should list all the ingredients and allergens.

Activities Officer Role Description

Renewal Date: 2024/25

Activities Officer Role Description Elle Phipps	
Overview (100 words)	This proposal is for Council to consider and approve the amendments made to the role description of Activities Officer in advance of the upcoming Executive Elections. There are amendments proposed to existing duties as well as the addition of duties that are core to the role of Activities Officer that have not previously been included.
Facts <i>Statements that are true, please provide appropriate references</i>	The role of Activities Officer covers four remits: student groups, volunteering, sustainability and employability. The previous role description was not sufficient in understanding the current and future duties of the role, specifically in the context of sustainability and student groups. Ahead of the executive elections, this needs amendment to ensure students have clear expectations of the role and the individual in that position.
Opinions <i>What should the Union think or believe on this topic/issue?</i>	These amendments will support prospective candidates in gauging an accurate understanding of the responsibilities of an Activities Officer. There is a traditional view that the main responsibilities are with day to day student groups and the amendments provide more definition on this and the relationship to Union Activities. In the previous role description there were not sufficient duties provided in relation to sustainability, the Activities Officer is the sole lead on sustainability matters at the Union and it is vital that is understood as one of the pillars of the role. I hope that the key changes provide more understanding of the position and encourage candidates to stand for an exciting and varied role.

<p>Actions/Outcomes <i>What are the things you would like to see happen?</i></p>	<p>Key Changes outlined: Removals: - To oversee the development of student groups and media groups. This is covered elsewhere in the document. Edits needed to current listed duties: - To oversee student development programmes for student group leaders, elected Union Council Officers/Representatives. To be changed to remove elected Union Council Officers/Representatives. - To develop accreditation programmes, both within Union and the University of Leicester Award, HEAR. To be changed to - To oversee and develop accreditation programmes within the Union and to be the principal point of contact with the University for their accreditation programme developments as appropriate. - To respond to student complaints about the Union and work with the relevant member of staff to resolve them as outlined under Ordinance XXII (Section 22). To oversee and ensure transparency of the student complaints process for the SU, ensuring complaints are resolved as outlined under Ordinance XXII (Section 22). - To oversee and publicise the process of ratifying student groups and the allocation of grants to student groups. To oversee and develop Societies Council and publicise the process of ratifying student groups and the allocation of grants, including Inclusion and Equity pot. Additions: - To oversee and develop student engagement with sustainability. - To be the principal point of contact between the Union and the Social Impact Team, and the principal point of contact at the Union on all sustainability matters. - To work with Union Activities to support student groups to be inclusive and accessible and to ensure under-represented groups are supported. - To work with Union Activities on student group policy, issues and improvements to the experience of students across the department.</p>
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Job Title	Activities Officer
Location	University of Leicester Students' Union, LE1 7RH
Salary	£20,000+
Reports To	Students
Role Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop and support student groups, and improve student engagement with Activities. • Be responsible for co-ordinating the environmental strategy of the Union • To oversee the development of student volunteering: community projects, fundraising etc.

Welcome to the Executive Team within the Students' Union!

The Students' Union is an empowering, innovative and inclusive student-led Union; championing your interests and providing a community that is home away from home. Students decide who will run and lead the Union so elections provide the chance to be part of something big, have some fun, and shape the Students' Union.

Executive Officers (Officer Trustees)

A Trustee of the Charity and a Director as required:

General

- All Executive Officers have a responsibility to ensure under-represented groups are represented in each of their assigned remits, as well as within the University community, ensuring their student experience is exceptional and advocating any issues that may be important to that group.
- Oversee and develop the Union's representational and democratic structures and systems to ensure as wide as possible student involvement.
- Monitor and propose provision of equal opportunities to students, promote and campaign for equal opportunities within the Union and the wider community.

Representation

- To be representatives of student views to the University and to external bodies.
- To regularly talk and listen to the entire membership of the Union.
- To complete the engagement circle by ensuring all activity and outcomes are fed back to the membership of the Union.
- To be responsible for communication of the work of the Executive team to the entire membership of the Union.
- To show an active engagement in all activities of other Officers/Representatives.
- To promote and abide by the Union's motto of "an innovative Union that empowers students to deliver change".
- To ensure that the Union enhances the student experience and effects real change to students' lives via effective representation and campaigning.

Trustee

- To act as Trustees of the Union, ensuring that all of its services are relevant with positive effects on students.
- To abide by the Trustees' Code of Conduct.
- To abide by the laws of the United Kingdom and by the Union's Constitution.
- To promote the purpose, vision, aims and objectives of the Union.

- To actively commit to reducing the environmental impact of the Union, whilst highlighting the best ethical practice.
- To carry out all duties with due regard to Health and Safety, Customer Care and Equal Opportunities Policies.
- To be Directors of the Union and other appropriate subsidiary companies (where eligible in company law), having legal responsibility for its services.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- To be responsible for coordinating the environmental strategy of the Union.
- To oversee and develop student engagement with sustainability.
- To be the principal point of contact between the Union and the Social Impact Team, and the principal point of contact at the Union on all sustainability matters.
- To oversee and ensure transparency of the complaints process for the Union, ensuring complaints are resolved as outlined under Ordinance XXII (Section 22).
- To support the work of the various student groups, enhancing the quality of experience and improving student engagement across all sectors of the population.
- To conduct activities and employability related campaigns as required.
- To work with Union Activities on supporting and developing student groups, including projects like Freshers'/Refreshers' Fair, Give It a Go, RAG Week etc.
- To work with Union Activities on student group policy, issues and improvements to the experience of students across the department.
- To work with Union Activities to support student groups to be inclusive and accessible and to ensure under-represented groups are supported.
- To be the principal point of contact between the Union and the Career Development Service.
- To act as the representative of the Union on matters concerning student activities, both to the University and external bodies.
- To oversee and develop Societies Council and publicise the process of ratifying student groups and the allocation of grants to student group, including the Inclusion and Equity pot.
- To develop the employability of students.
- To oversee the development of student volunteering: community projects, fundraising etc.
- To oversee student development programmes for student group leaders.
- To oversee and develop accreditation programmes within the Union and to be the principal point of contact with the University for their accreditation programmes developments as appropriate.

Lobby City Council to Rename De Montfort Hall

Renewal Date: 2024/25

Lobby City Council to Rename DeMontfort Hall

SHAYNA WISE-TILL AND KARLI WAGENER

Overview	<p>Simon De Montfort was an anti-Semite. He was responsible exiling all the Jewish people from Leicester, and forgiving all the debts owed to them, among other things.</p> <p>Students should not matriculate nor graduate in a hall named after an extremist, and we must pressure City Council to rename it.</p>
Facts	<p>“No Jew or Jewess in my time, or in the time of any of my heirs to the end of the world, shall inhabit or remain, or obtain a residence in Leicester,” read De Montfort’s charter. Simon De Montfort was the 6th Earl of Leicester and led the baronial opposition to the rule of King Henry III of England, resulting in the Second Barons’ War. He also played a significant role in the constitutional development of England. According to Aubrey Newman, a professor at the University of Leicester an expert on Anglo Jewish relations, Simon De Montfort was almost certainly involved in the massacre of several hundred Jewish people in London in 1258. As Earl of Leicester, he expelled Jewish people from Leicester and encouraged murderous attacks on other Jewish communities. These actions were justified as “for the good of my soul, and for the souls of my ancestors and successors.” After becoming de facto ruler of the country, he cancelled debts owed to Jewish people through violent seizures of records.</p> <p>-You don’t need to look far to find this information, it is within the first two paragraphs of the Earl’s Wikipedia page.</p>
Opinions	<p>-As the Union has committed to decolonising the curriculum and making campus safer and more inclusive, this is an essential step.</p> <p>-Students should not have to graduate and matriculate in a hall named after an anti-Semite.</p> <p>-He does not reflect the values we claim to uphold as a University.</p> <p>-The hall should be renamed after someone who was truly a citizen of change.</p> <p>-It has been argued that DeMontfort was simply a man of his time, and Jewish people hating was the norm.</p> <p>-One historian from the DeMontfort charity claimed, “he was no different from any other man of the time.” If this is the case, the building clearly should not be named after a man of that time.</p> <p>-If the argument stands that many historical figures had questionable activities, this presents a wonderful opportunity to do research into ones who didn’t.</p>

Actions/Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Campaigning for the renaming of the hall 2. Create pressure on the University to not hold prestigious events in buildings named after De Montfort (i.e., graduation and matriculation) 3. Open call to collaborate with DSU on this issue
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Sources:

<http://leicestershirelala.com/youll-never-look-at-simon-de-montfort-the-same-way-again/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-54995643>

Disinvestment Defence

Renewal Date: 2024/25

Disinvestment Defence

RHIANNON JENKINS

Overview	The University have announced a “strategic plan” (disinvestment) in the middle of a pandemic. We want the SU to stand with the UCU and any staff threatened by redundancy to ensure minimum damage. Redundancies reduce the quality of teaching and services on offer for students and also impact the livelihoods of those who have dedicated many years to the University, only to be rewarded with a lack of concern from the executive board. To ensure the University can still provide the highest level of teachings across the affected schools, the SU should lobby the uni to prevent redundancies, to ensure student experience and staff welfare is not affected.
Facts	<p>“It is possible that the university may need to invoke the formal redundancy ordinance in the coming months.” – letter to staff 16/11/20</p> <p>“Each pre-change engagement process may feed into a future business case. This may lead to some job losses but we cannot pre-judge the outcome of this process at this stage.” – email to staff</p> <p>Staff were not given adequate time to react to this information, nor were line managers given advance warning. (See: UCU statement below)</p> <p>Staff were asked to anonymously share their responses in a 5 question survey from HR – in some of the Schools, this survey was only about one department but sent to the entire school, for other subjects to feedback on too. (School of Arts)</p>

Opinions	<p>Whilst this motion is intended to support staff and their well-being, it must also be noted that redundancies will inevitably affect the student experience. Smaller staff numbers mean higher class sizes, which means that students will receive less individual attention and support. It also means staff will be taking on larger workloads, increasing marking time and reducing their ability to offer formative assessments as there isn't the staff to cover two assessment periods. SU should listen primarily to students and affected staff: UCU statement: https://www.uculeicester.org.uk/ucu/university-restructuring-plans-threaten-our-community/ Student petition (School of Arts): https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wc36PPDinSTskax9jjuNkRV99ML2n8klW_V-Fbv4Hlg/edit?usp=sharing The votes amassed supporting this proposal initially too show student support</p>
Actions/Outcomes	<p>The University to desist in their pre-change programme entirely, instead focusing on finding more investment and cutting costs elsewhere (ie. new accommodation builds and executive salaries). From the SU we want to see a firm stand against redundancies and proactive lobbying against the university, alongside the unions, to ensure minimum impact. A statement standing against redundancies and the disinvestment programme would be appreciated as the first small step. A meeting between the Executive Board and course reps from the affected schools, to share student dissatisfaction with the decision and for them to clearly outline their plans.</p>

Support Student Sex Workers

Renewal Date: 2024/25

<h1>Support Student Sex Workers</h1> <p>MIA NEMBHARD, SU PRESIDENT TONY MAGAIA, LIBERATION OFFICER</p>	
Overview	<p>The Union has previously led campaigns raising awareness and support for student sex workers, including but not limited to the student sex policy (currently in the final stages of review) that aims to safeguard SSW personal wellbeing and safety being considered as a priority, a non-judgemental approach and more importantly a no-detriment outcome for the disclosure of employment status. CW: Sexual violence The</p>

	<p>criminalization of sex work puts sex workers in a position of exploitation, abuse and harassment by police as well as access to appropriate healthcare. In addition to this, it also makes sex workers vulnerable to sexual abuse/assault, and in some cases murder. Without laws to protect sex workers, we need to do our part and not only raise awareness campaigns. With this policy, we're hoping to present the union as a safe space for sex workers, and are committing ourselves to supporting student sex workers, and continue the fight for decriminalisation.</p>
Facts	<p>Sex work refers to providing sexual services directly or indirectly in exchange for money or other consumables and may include escorting,</p> <p>webcamming, stripping, adult entertainment, phone sex or other markets. It is legal to sell and buy sex between two consenting adults in the UK. There are laws which make it illegal to solicit and loiter on the street, own a brothel (i.e. two or more people working together) and assisting in the organisation of brothels. Although safety policy and practice in the UK does not sufficiently focus on sex worker safety (Kinnell 2008; Whowell 2010; Sagar and Jones, 2014), meaning sex workers are often victims of hate crime. The Student Sex Work project report (2015) confirmed that an increasing number of students look to sex work in order to cover the cost of living and prevent debt.</p> <p>http://www.thestudentsexworkproject.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/TSSWP-Research-Summary-English.pdf In 2014, the NUS National Executive Council passed a policy to campaign against any challenge to introduce the Nordic Model (which criminalises the purchase of sex) and to support the decriminalisation of sex work in the UK.</p> <p>https://www.nusconnect.org.uk/resources/nec-motions-and-amendments-3-december-2014 In the Save the Student Money Survey, 2020, 4% of students had done sex work and 1 in ten students would turn to sex work in a cash emergency.</p> <p>https://www.savethestudent.org/money/student-money-survey-2020.html Migrant sex workers face deportation and trans, migrant and sex workers of colour are reported to disproportionately experience violence at the hands of the police (The English Collective of Prostitutes, 2019)</p> <p>https://prostitutescollective.net/.</p>

<p>Opinions</p>	<p>Sex work is not one experience: It is important that sex work is understood in its variety of delivery. Not every sex worker engages in physical contact but it wouldn't matter if they did. This should not drive and more/less respect from the student community. Sex work is work. With the rising costs of living, tuition fees and maintenance grant removed from the Student Finance offering, we will see more students turn to sex work as a source of income. In an inclusive environment, support for student sex workers will look different to other campaigns that aim to represent and celebrate lived experiences that may have faces to campaigns. 'Outing'* individuals about their status without their consent puts students at risk of harm.</p> <p>*Outing is disclosing personal information about someone without their consent. Sex worker fear being outed extensively as the repercussion are huge for both themselves and their families and loved ones.</p>
<p>Actions/Outcomes</p>	<p>The Student Union should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide non-discriminatory support for students as advocates and provide this regardless of their worker status as sex workers. Including this strand of advocacy within the Advice centre and Executive Officer team. 2. Work with the University to safeguard ssw from stigmatisation from the student and academic community. 3. To support and campaign for the full decriminalisation of sex work. 4. To campaign against any introduction of the Nordic Model (the criminalisation of purchasing sex) in the UK. 5. To support and be informed by experience-led organisations, such as the Decrim Now, the Sex Worker Advocacy and Resistance Movement (SWARM) whom all serve to campaign and improve the lives of sex worker experience across the 4 nations. 6. Commit to the political and social inclusion of student sex workers as part of the student community, empowering voices that need to be heard and represented.