

## **1779 Ace and Aro Awareness Week** passed 29 October 15

Proposer: Elliott Simpson (LGBT+ Caucus)

Seconded: Elliot Folan (UEA Geeks)

### **Union Notes:**

1. Before this academic year, there has not been an official Ace and/or Aro rep for union council;
2. That previous Concrete Sex surveys have omitted the option to identify under an asexual or aromantic orientation;
3. That before the now on-going Asexual Awareness Week, there has been virtually next to no representation or discussion of asexual or aromantic issues or experiences within student media;
4. That according to Anthony F. Bogaert's study and research, that 1% of the world's population is asexual;

### **Union Believes:**

1. Ace and aro individuals do make up a portion of the UEA population;
2. That "Asexual Student" (or "Ace Student" in order to encompass all myriad variations on the spectrum) shall be defined by UUEAS as being any student that experience sexual attraction either fully or partially. This includes all variations on the ace spectrum, including greysexuals, demisexuals, Lithsexuals, Cupiosexuals, and Quoirosexuals;
3. That "Aromantic Student" (or "Aro Student" in order to encompass all myriad variations on the spectrum) shall be defined by UUEAS as being any student that experience romantic attraction either fully or partially. This includes all variations on the aro spectrum, including greyromantics, demiromantics, Lithromantics, Cupioromantics, and Quoiroromantics;
4. That we have no tolerance for discrimination or exclusion of ace or aro individuals and will oppose it whenever it appears;
5. That sexual identity is defined by the individual, not by society or by societal norms;
6. That people's sexual identities are not matters of debate, and the Union will accept Ace and Aro students without forcing them to justify their existence or their rights;
7. That Asexuality and Aromanticism are often overlooked orientations and are lacking in scientific research;
8. That any future policy relating to Ace and Aro students should not be drawn up unless Ace and Aro students from across UEA have had the opportunity to input into a discussion of the policy through a committee, discussion group, survey, caucus or some other method;
9. That no policy on Ace and Aro students should be written solely by an allosexual person without consulting the elected representative(s) of Ace and Aro students;
10. That UUEAS can plan an important role in changing mindsets around Ace and Aro representation and societal conceptions.

**Union Resolves:**

1. That the Union will help host an Ace and Aro Awareness Week every year in order to spread continuing understanding of the asexual community and orientation;
2. To mandate the Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer to support the LGBT+ officer in taking active action to promote and support all Ace and Aro awareness campaigns in order to aid certain individual's paths to discovering their own sexual identities.