

List of All Active Policies

February 2013

Policies are passed at CUSU Council and then assigned to teams, this document is a reference list of all policies listed in the order they are passed, not assigned to teams.

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SAFE SPACE (2010)

CUSU NOTES:

1. Standing Orders A.8/B.12: i. The chair may demand the withdrawal of any remark or the ceasing of any behaviour or language that they deem aggressive, disrespectful, threatening, intimidating, or designed to cause harm or disruption;
2. Standing Orders A.7: i. Any member of CUSU present has the right not to be photographed at a CUSU meeting.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That while CUSU Council and Open meetings are a forum for debate, and that this can be heated, they should also be a Safe Space;
2. That remarks, behaviour or language that is aggressive, disrespectful, threatening, intimidating, or designed to cause harm or disruption is unacceptable and should not be tolerated;
3. That anyone present at a CUSU meeting should be able to act to prevent any of the above activities;
4. That the power to remand attendees of the meeting should remain with the Chair;
5. That the current articles (A.7 and B.13. pertaining to photography and recording at Council and Open Meetings should be moved into a Safe Space Article.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To amend A.8/B.12
2. To mandate the Chair to ensure Article A.8/B.12 is on display at every CUSU Council Meeting and Open Meeting, and that the substance of the article is highlighted before every meeting, in order to reassure people in attendance that they can feel freely able to speak and that there is no need to suffer in silence if they feel that they are being treated unfairly.

CREATING AN INTERNATIONAL RIGHT TO EDUCATION OFFICER

CUSU NOTES:

1. Article A.2.vi of the CUSU Constitution: The Union shall pursue these objectives by representing and seeking to give effect to the views of students on issues concerning or directly affecting education or student social rights in any country;
2. Its status as an educational charity;
3. That international education is frequently affected by, poverty, conflict, discrimination on the grounds of particular characteristics such as gender, race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, and/or other factors;

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the right to education is universal;

2. That as an educational charity and in accordance with Article A.2.vi of the CUSU Constitution our aims include promoting the right to education internationally as well as within Cambridge;
3. That we should create an officer position in order to promote this aim;
4. That such an officer should be a member of the CUSU Ethical Affairs Team, and should also work closely with the Access Team.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To add to the CUSU Standing Orders: G.7.viii The International Right to Education Officer:
 - a. Shall be elected at the third Council of Michaelmas Term.
 - b. Shall lead CUSU campaigns and activities involving promoting the right to education internationally, finding concrete ways of supporting students in other countries where education is being seriously affected by conflict, poverty, discrimination or any other factor.

CUSU ENTS OFFICER

CUSU NOTES:

1. CUSU Policy "Article G Redraft" which restructured the CUSU Executive and abolished the position of CUSU Entertainments Officer;
2. The CUSU Entertainments Officer used to support the work of the CUSU Ents Manager by publicising CUSU Ents to students and maintaining contacts with JCR/MCR Ents Officers.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The abolition of the CUSU Entertainments Officer has been detrimental to the promotion of CUSU Ents in the University and CUSU's support of JCR/MCR ents;
2. CUSU Ents' club nights provide give valuable services to students and useful income to CUSU (in particular the LGBT and graduate-oriented nights, which offer specific experiences not currently otherwise provided by the private sector in Cambridge);
3. CUSU should have a part time Entertainments Officer to assist in publicising CUSU Ents to students, maintaining contacts with JCR/MCR Ents Officers and supporting common rooms with College ents.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To amend the CUSU Standing Orders to reinstate the position of Ents Officer.

LAST CHANCE TO SAVE HIGHER EDUCATION AS WE KNOW IT

CUSU NOTES:

1. The recommendations from the Browne Review which removes the cap on tuition fees and Vince Cable's speech to the House of Commons accepting the bulk of the recommendations;
2. The Coalition Government has already announced more than £1.5bn of cuts to further and higher education;
3. 150,000 qualified applicants have missed out on a university place this year and many thousands more will face huge increases in the cost of local college courses;
4. All indications are that the Comprehensive Spending Review will see further budget cuts removing £1 from every £4 for our colleges and universities;
5. Other countries are investing massively in the expansion of education;
6. The national demonstration being organized by NUS and the UCU to take place on Wednesday 10 th November in Central London;
7. That around 200 students turned up to the 'Browne Funding Forum' run by CUSU at the Cambridge Union.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Education is a public good just like health and social care. Price should not be a factor in accessing it. Fees should be abolished, not increased;
2. Education changes the lives of individuals, families and communities and benefits society as a whole, not just those who access it directly;
3. A removal of the cap on fees, which will create a market in higher education, is something that will have devastating effects on the widening participation work being done by CUSU;
4. Cutting education and skills budgets has a detrimental effect on the society and the economy;
5. Jobs, student places, funding for teaching and access itself are at risk from the Coalition Government and together we must fight back to protect ourselves, our values and our communities;
6. It is vital for students to be able to voice their opposition to these devastating cuts and to the marketisation of higher education.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To fully support and participate in the NUS & UCU demonstration on Wednesday 10 November 2010 in central London;
2. To ensure that as many students as possible are aware of the cuts and marketisation agenda and are mobilised to campaign against them;
3. To work with trade unions and other organisations to secure support for this mobilisation;
4. To provide £400 from the Council Free Budget to help fund the provision of coaches to take students to the national demonstration;

5. To create a Higher Education Campaigns Group for anyone who wishes to help plan for the many campaigns that will be run this year and to bring further proposals back to council.

FUNDING CUTS

CUSU NOTES:

1. Over £700 million has been cut from university budgets nationally in the last year, putting an estimated 22,000 jobs at risk;
 2. University vice-chancellors are being told by the government to prepare for further cuts of 35%;
 3. Cambridge University has recently formed working groups to find university-wide "efficiency savings" in the areas of services and administration, pay and restructuring, and academic activities (Cambridge University Reporter, 7 th July 2010);
 4. Cambridge University is officially the wealthiest university in the country, with a total endowment fund of £4bn, which includes £1bn that was raised for the university's 800 th anniversary last year.
1. CUSU Further Notes:
 1. The National Union of Students (NUS) and University and College Union (UCU) are jointly organising a national demonstration, "Fund Our Future: Stop Education Cuts", on Wednesday 10 th November 2010 in central London;
 2. UCU, Unison, and Unite unions, which collectively have several thousand members in Cambridge University, are all members of the "Defend Higher Education campaign", which has pledged to support students in campaigning against higher education cuts;
 3. The Cambridgeshire and District Trades Council is a local body of trade union delegates which meets monthly to co-ordinate local campaigns.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Jobs, wages, and pensions of both lecturers and support staff will be under threat due to the university-wide "efficiency savings";
2. A culture of job insecurity, low salaries and decreased pensions are detrimental to high quality teaching;
3. "Efficiency savings" in Cambridge University and cuts to the national higher education budget will result in worse provision of teaching and research facilities for both students and staff;
4. It is contradictory that the wealthiest university in the country is making university-wide "efficiency savings";
5. Members of student unions and education sector trade unions should work together in order to secure and improve jobs, living wages, pensions, services, research, and teaching standards.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. Send members of the CUSU executive to Trades Council meetings as visitors, in order to help organisation and co-ordination of the campaign against higher education cuts between CUSU and other local union branches;
2. Organise and publicise a joint public meeting in Cambridge after the 10th November demonstration, along with Cambridge University UCU branch, CU Unite branch, CU Unison branch, CU Graduate Union (and any relevant unions at Anglia Ruskin University, and Cambridgeshire schools and sixth form colleges), in order to sustain and strengthen the campaign against higher education cuts.

EDUCATION ACTIVIST NETWORK AFFILIATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. The publication of the Browne Review last week, the implementation of which would contradict CUSU's policy on Higher Education funding;
2. That the Education Activist Network (EAN) are organising a conference at King's College London and the London School of Economics on October 31 st , from 11am til 5pm;
3. The conference will include the following speakers: Alan Whitaker, President of the University and College Union; Labour MP John McDonnell; Vicky Baars (NUS LGBT Officer, women's place), Kanja Sesay (NUS Black Students Officer); Romayne Phoenix, Green Party campaigns coordinator; Professors Danny Dorling, Costas Lapavitsas, Steven Rose, Alex Callinicos & Alberto Toscano; and Abdulrahman Alhadithi (Federation of Student Islamic Societies Head of Campaigns);
4. That you can register your place at the conference at the following url:
<http://educationactivistnetwork.blogspot.com/>

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That, in the current climate, we need to take the debate about opposing cuts to Higher Education beyond the precincts of Cambridge and out into the wider student movement;
2. That supporting initiatives like the EAN conference is useful way to build the confidence of the student movement and that such initiatives are a useful tool in working towards a large and vibrant turnout on the NUS demonstration on November 10 th ;
3. That the conference will provide a useful forum in which to continue the debate about alternatives to the proposed cuts to the Higher Education budget and that it will have an important educational value.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To affiliate to, and publicise the Conference of, the Education Activist Network.

HELP SAVE EMA

CUSU NOTES:

1. That currently around 620,000 students receive Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) in England, which is a means-tested weekly allowance of between £10 and £30, paid to 16 to 19- year-olds whose household's net income is below £30,000 pa, designed to help cover the day-to-day costs of being a student. This payment is dependent on regular attendance;

2. That those receiving the maximum £30 payment (family income below £20,817 per year) make up 80% of all recipients;
3. Research by the Institute for Fiscal Studies which shows attainment at GCSE and A-Level by EMA recipients has risen by 5 to 7 percentage points since its introduction, and by even more for those living in the most deprived neighbourhoods;
4. That since Scotland lowered the threshold for the £30 payment and abolished the £10 and £20 payments, the level of youth unemployment has risen by 7,000;
5. Michael Gove's comments to the Guardian before the general election: "Ed Balls keeps saying that we are committed to scrapping the EMA. I have never said this. We won't";
6. That following the Comprehensive Spending Review, the Education Maintenance Allowance is set to be completely abolished, being replaced from January 2011 with a 'learner support fund', which will be a discretionary fund to be administered by schools and colleges;
7. The following statement from the Government's website in relation to EMA, just below the statement about it ending: "EMA spells fewer money worries with up to £30 a week during term time – leaving you to get on with your studies";
8. The creation of the Save EMA Campaign: <http://saveema.co.uk/>

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That EMA is an vital source of income for many students from low-income backgrounds, which means that they can focus on their studies;
2. That EMA acts as an incentive for many students to go onto college and to stay on college;
3. That the abolition of EMA risks causing students from the poorest backgrounds to choose between their education or their finances, thus being damaging to access;
4. That the Government should be doing more to help students from the poorest backgrounds to achieve their potential and go onto university should they want to, not making this more difficult. Abolishing EMA after promising that they would not is just another betrayal of students and another breaking of promises;
5. That the new learner support fund risks creating a postcode lottery between areas and even between schools; that there is no evidence that schools will have the administrative ability to administer this new fund.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To fully support the Save EMA Campaign;
2. To mandate the CUSU Access and Funding Officer/CUSU President to write to the appropriate Minister to express our concerns about the plans and to lobby them to reverse their decision;
3. To advertise the Save EMA campaign through the CUSU bulletin and through Access Officer lists, encouraging students to sign-up and offer their support.

ABOLITION OF AIM HIGHER

CUSU NOTES:

1. That AimHigher is a National Initiative which was set up in July 2004 to help raise aspirations and to provide impartial information, advice and guidance to students from the poorest backgrounds. It is a partnership currently involving around 2500 schools, 300 colleges and 100 universities;
2. The announcement by the Universities Minister, David Willets that AimHigher is to be completely scrapped at the end of the 2010-11 Academic year, and that universities would be given increased

responsibility for widening participation and would have to show that they were attracting poor students in order to charge higher fees;

3. That when AimHigher was launched in 2004, it received £136million in funding, and that by the start of 2010 this was down to £78 million;
4. That in the year 2008-09, AimHigher made contact with around 67,000 students across 2550 schools and colleges in over 1 million visits;
5. CUSU Policy 'Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)' from Easter I 2008. 6. The proposed removal of funding from certain degree courses.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That it is vital for widening participation that there is an impartial body that can help raise the aspirations of those bright students who might think university is not an option for them because of their background;
2. That whilst universities definitely should be doing a lot of access work and should always be encouraged to dedicate more resources towards widening participation, it should not be left to them alone;
3. That now the financial future of many institutions will depend solely on the number of students that they can get to study at that institution, there is little chance of complete impartiality in their widening participation work. It is unlikely that universities will readily advise students that other universities will be better for the course that they do or the type of university that they wish to attend;
4. That it is completely unacceptable that students are still able to inadvertently select themselves out of certain courses because they have not been given adequate advice in time;
5. That the scrapping of AimHigher will risk making the information, advice and guidance provided to students in many of the the poorest performing schools even worse, and will open the door for profit-making companies to come and fill the gap;
6. That information, advice and guidance should not depend on the school that you attend or the area in which you live.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Access Officer and President to write to the relevant minister expressing our outrage at the abolition of AimHigher because of the points outlined above;
2. To mandate the CUSU Access Officer to schedule a meeting with our local MP as soon as possible to express our concerns and to lobby him to support us in our fight against the direct attack on widening participation, in the form of the proposed increases in fees, abolition of EMA and now the abolition of AimHigher;
3. To advertise the 'Save AimHigher' petition via the CUSU bulletin and through relevant mailing lists, encouraging students to sign it.

PROTESTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST CUTS

CUSU NOTES:

1. Cuts of 40% are planned for the national university teaching budget and proposals have been made to increase tuition fees up to £9,000 per year;
2. The University officially "welcomes the potential flexibility offered by the government's decision to increase the maximum annual tuition fee to £9,000 per year";

3. So far, two national demonstrations have been held against the proposed cuts to higher education (on the 10 th and 24 th November), with over 50,000 students from schools, colleges, and universities taking part;
4. The latest demonstrations on the 24 th November included a march of over 1,000 students in Cambridge. This peaceful protest was met with police repression and violence, including the arrest of one demonstrator;
5. Another day of national demonstrations is planned for the 30 th November, including a demonstration in Cambridge;
6. Peaceful demonstrations of over two million people in 2003 were not able to stop the government choosing to go to war in Iraq.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The planned cuts to education will place jobs, wages, pensions, and conditions under threat, and will result in worse services, less research, and lower-quality teaching standards;
2. Members of student unions and education sector trade unions should work together in order to secure and improve jobs, living wages, pensions, services, research, and teaching standards;
3. Students and workers should not have to pay for the effects of the economic crisis;
4. Members of society have a right to peaceful protest without fear of violence or arrest from the police;
5. Demonstrations, petitions, and letter-writing have a limited impact on the political and economic choices that governments make, and must be backed up by a mass movement of students and workers.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. Write a formal letter, to be signed by all members of the executive and sent to all relevant university staff and bodies, supporting the demonstration that took place in Cambridge on the 24th November;
2. Officially support and assist with any future demonstrations against the cuts in Cambridge, including the demonstration on the 30th November, by publicising the event to all members;
3. Demand that the University completely oppose all cuts to education and use its influence to oppose the rise in tuition fees and the spending review's threat to education, welfare, health, and other public services;
4. Work with local anti-cuts campaigns, such as Cambridgeshire Against the Cuts and Cambridge Defend Education, in order to organise city-wide public assemblies that can facilitate a mass movement against the cuts.

CUSU CAMPAIGN AGAINST STUDENT VISA REFORM

CUSU NOTES:

1. The government's plans for reforming the student visa and immigration system, as outlined in the attached summary document (Appendix 3, to follow);
2. The government's intention to eliminate the post study work route, and the damaging effect that this will have on our international student body;
3. The proposal to require students to leave the UK and reapply when embarking on a higher level course "to mark the fact that their initial visa has expired", and the detrimental effect this will have on Cambridge students, given that the higher number of international students at this institution who embark on Masters study and PhDs on completing an undergraduate course;

4. That dependents will not be granted a visa when accompanying students who are on a course lasting less than twelve months and that this includes most Masters programmes that Cambridge offers;
5. That dependents will not be permitted to work when accompanying students whose course lasts more than twelve months.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the government's plans for reforming the student visa and immigration system should be opposed in their entirety;
2. That the proposals could put off many international students from applying to study at Cambridge;
3. That the proposals will severely damage the experience of many international students at Cambridge;
4. That international students who have completed a course of study should be allowed to seek employment here.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To work with other student unions and the NUS to effectively campaign against these proposals;
2. To lobby the University and our local MP, Julian Huppert, to oppose these measures and to use their influence to resist them;
3. To encourage JCRs and MCRs to engage with this campaign and oppose the danger these proposals represent to their students;
4. To organise a letter writing campaign targeting the key governmental ministers responsible for introducing these proposals.

OPPOSITION TO MAINTENANCE BURSARY AND FEE BURSARY CHANGES

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the University of Cambridge currently offers the most generous bursary schemes in the country;
2. That the living costs at Cambridge exceed the maintenance loan offered by the Student Loans Company, even according to the University's own figures;
3. That bursary money for the poorest students is a fundamental factor allowing students not only to survive but to thrive at Cambridge;
4. That College hardship funds are important but variable and often badly publicised;
5. That tuition fee loans do not burden the student with repayment during their time at university;
6. That able students should be able to attend the University of Cambridge whatever their financial background.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the University should continue to provide, and be proud of providing, the most generous maintenance bursaries in the country;
2. That the current change to reduce the maintenance bursary in order to provide a 'fee waiver' is counterproductive;
3. That reducing the amount of bursary provision for the poorest students during their time at Cambridge will inevitably undermine widening participation work;
4. That, within the system the Government has imposed upon us, altering the levels of fees paid back is a less effective tool than generous maintenance bursary provision as the former merely reduces the student's future tax liabilities.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU President and related officers to oppose these changes to bursary provision;
2. To perform research into the effects that this damaging policy decision may have;
3. To mandate the sabbatical team to actively campaign against these changes, including further public statements and an open letter to national newspapers.

THE USS PENSION PROPOSALS WOULD BE A DISASTER FOR ACADEMICS AND STUDENTS

CUSU NOTES:

1. The Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) is the pension scheme for academics throughout the UK;
2. The USS has been 'consulting' on radical changes to the terms of the scheme, which would— amongst other things—result in lower and capped inflationary increases of pension levels over time as well as a segregation between current and new scheme members 1 ;
3. These changes would, in effect, cost current scheme members tens of thousands of pounds, and new academics hundreds of thousands of pounds, from the value of their pensions;
4. That UCU is holding a national ballot on whether or not to take industrial action on this issue.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That these changes have not even been adequately demonstrated to be necessary;
2. Several aspects of the changes would be enormously damaging to academic staff;
3. The changes would also do serious harm to Cambridge's ability to recruit the best academics in the global market in which we operate;
4. The proposals need a drastic rethink: USS must go back to the negotiating table;
5. Industrial action can be a legitimate tool to defend our education system;
6. Our lecturers are right to be angry about these damaging proposals;
7. Concern among academics is not simply about personal gain, but comes from a genuine fear for the future of the UK's university system;
8. That especially because the University of Cambridge is such a close community of students and academics, anything that negatively affects our teachers is of concern to us as well.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To maintain effective collaboration with the Cambridge branch of UCU as the industrial dispute develops;
2. To defend close relationships between students and academics if industrial action takes place;
3. To mandate the sabbatical team to continue actively campaigning on the University Council and elsewhere against the extremely damaging changes to the USS.

CUSU MUST FIGHT CUTS, NOT DENY THEM

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the Government has imposed unprecedented cuts to the public funding of higher education;
2. That this has already impacted upon Cambridge with enormous real-terms cuts to our teaching, research, infrastructure and widening participation budgets, which will only continue to get worse;

3. That the University's Planning and Resources Committee has commissioned recommendations on how to deal with this situation.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That we have been right to fight the Government's cuts and must continue to do so;
2. That, given cuts to the higher education budget are already happening, it must also be a priority to ensure that these cuts do the least damage possible.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To campaign against all cuts that damage the educational provision for our members;
2. To continue defending the shared interests of students, academics and other University staff in preserving the University's ability to fulfil its core mission;
3. To seek UCU's support in sending a joint statement to the Vice-Chancellor and the University Council.

THERE ARE 36 HOURS TO SAVE MAINTENANCE BURSARIES AND WP

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the University of Cambridge currently offers the most generous maintenance bursary schemes in the country;
2. That the University Council has retreated from slashing the maintenance bursary Cambridge offers by more than half;
3. That it is still intending to try again to cut maintenance bursaries to fund a fee waiver by some unspecified amount;
4. That the University Council is currently seeking the approval of all academics (in the form of a Grace to the Regent House) to draw up an Access Agreement with the Office for Fair Access (OFFA);
5. That CUSU has drafted an amendment to this Grace (see Appendix 1) to ensure that maintenance bursaries are not cut;
6. That CUSU has drafted its own Graces (see Appendix 2. to force the University to: a) commit more money to the total financial package that it provides for the poorest students; b) to seek approval from academics for the final balance it allocates between widening participation, maintenance bursaries and fee waivers; and c) to be more ambitious in its target for the proportion of state school students at Cambridge;
7. That for these graces to get on to the ballot paper and to pass, they will need widespread support from academics;
8. That academic signatures in support of the amending Grace must be received by the University by midday this coming Wednesday 02 March, so the deadline is extremely tight.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the introduction of higher fees will create unprecedented difficulties for our—and the University's—Access work;
2. That therefore the University must not cut maintenance bursaries if it is to succeed in attracting the best students, irrespective of background;
3. That, while CUSU opposes fees, fee 'waivers' in the context of a fee system only offset future tax liabilities rather than improve students' standards of living whilst they are students;

4. That, within the system the Government has imposed upon us, altering the levels of fees paid back is a less effective tool than generous maintenance bursary provision as the former merely reduces the student's future tax liabilities.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To lead an effective campaign to ensure that as many academics as possible sign CUSU's '25 member' amending Grace and '50 member' Graces (see Appendices 1&2.);
2. To use all of its networks (P+E, CUSU Council, Faculty Forum, autonomous campaigns, etc.) to lobby Regent House members (supervisors, lecturers, Fellows and other academics) to support these Graces;
3. To continue these campaigning efforts to ensure that the University Council's Grace only passes with CUSU's amendment that there be no cut to the real-terms maintenance bursary that the University provides to the poorest students.

MARCH FOR THE ALTERNATIVE

CUSU NOTES:

1. The savage 80% cuts to the higher education teaching budget;
2. David Willett's warning that more cuts to the higher education teaching budget could follow;
3. The massive cuts to public services and the public sector, which will severely affect students;
4. The "March for the Alternative" being organised by the Trades Union Congress on Saturday 26 March in London, bringing together diverse groups that will be affected by the cuts;
5. That the NUS has fully endorsed and supported the March for the Alternative.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That cutting university funding has an extremely damaging effect on individual students and society as a whole;
2. That the fight against cuts to the higher education budget and increased tuition fees must continue;
3. That Cambridge students should have a strong presence at the largest march against government policy for a generation;
4. That it is vital that CUSU campaigns against cuts to higher education and other cuts that will affect its members.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To support and publicise the TUC March for the Alternative on 26 March;
2. To allocate £260 from the Council Free Budget towards coaches for the march.

A SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY FOR THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT FUND

CUSU NOTES:

1. That, whilst the Statement of Investment Responsibility (Reporter, 2008–09, 20 July 2009) is to be welcomed, it does not constitute a Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) policy, but simply reaffirms

the position set out in "CC14—Investment of Charitable Funds: Detailed guidance" namely, recognising that 'the University may balance against its primary responsibility considerations of the ethical nature of investments';

2. That Charities Law does impose certain constraints under 'fiduciary responsibility but that under current legislation more could be done regarding responsible investment than is done at present;
3. That many other Universities have full SRI policies in place, some of which have been in place for many years. Examples include: Oxford, St Andrews and Manchester in the UK, and Harvard, Stamford, UPenn, and Brown in the US;
4. That the UK financial sector has an extensive responsible investment sector with specialist managers able to provide a broad range of SRI options. There are also a growing number of UN sponsored initiatives which emphasise the importance of responsible finance, the most important of which being: the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI), launched 2005, and the UNEP FI Human Rights Guidance Tool for the Financial Sector, launched 2007.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the University should have a SRI policy which reflects its mission and core values (Reporter 2001–02, p. 226.. These include: freedom of thought and expression, freedom from discrimination, and concern for environmental stability;
2. That key stake-holders must be consulted in the development of such a policy, including but not necessarily limited to students, the fellowship, and the University's investment team;
3. That in order to be effective any SRI policy must be sufficiently flexible so as to take into account the different investment styles in the Cambridge University Endowment Fund (CUEF) portfolio and to keep up with ongoing developments;
4. That if the University was to adopt an SRI policy for the CUEF portfolio it would make it easier to persuade individual colleges to implement SRI policies.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To continue campaigning for responsible investment within the University;
2. To make the University more aware of best practice with regard to responsible investment;
3. To develop a workable SRI policy for management of the CUEF portfolio in consultation with the University's investment team and any other interested parties, ready to present to the Executive Committee on 26 April 2011 (see Appendix 1);
4. To encourage the University to use its influence on its investment managers to champion the University's core values by encouraging managers to make use of the UN PRI, and the UNEP FI Human Rights Guidance Tool;
5. To encourage the University investment team to seriously consider adding SRI investment managers to the CUEF portfolio.

CONTINUE THE FIGHT FOR A HIGHER EDUCATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the coalition government has increased the maximum fee to £9,000, with disastrous consequences for higher education.
2. That the government may introduce further cuts to the higher education budget, on top of the devastating cuts that have already happened.

3. That the government will publish a (much delayed) White Paper on higher education, which may require a swift response from the student movement.
4. That NUS is still prevaricating over its response to developments in the government's future plans for higher education funding and legislation.
5. The NUS President-elect's commitment to continuing with last year's demonstrations and other direct action.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the fight against the government's wrecking of higher education cannot end now.
2. That we should continue to fight for a higher education free for all and fight against tuition fees.
3. That it is important to keep up the momentum from last year's protests against the increase to £9,000 fees.
4. That students need to continue to mobilise on a national scale against the government's disastrous higher education policies.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To put pressure on the NUS to publicly commit to holding a national demonstration in the next academic year, in response to the government's continuing damaging higher education policies.
2. To commit to organising coaches to a national demonstration if it is called.

CAMPAIGNING AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY'S ANTIQUATED RULES FOR DE-GRADING

CUSU NOTES:

1. That Cambridge University currently has a policy of requiring almost all students who de-grade to live outside of Cambridge.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That students who de-grade have a wide variety of circumstances and reasons for doing so, and that a blanket rule saying that students must not reside in Cambridge is completely inappropriate.
2. That whilst colleges may not wish students to reside in college, they should have no power to stop students residing in the city of Cambridge.
3. That this rule is founded on the assumption that students have a home outside Cambridge to go back to (and that returning there is in the student's best interest), which is often not the case.
4. That students often build up a considerable support network in Cambridge, which the University should not force students to abandon.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the Student Support Officer and the Education Officer to campaign for students to have complete freedom of choice in where they live as de-graded students and against the University imposing restrictions upon that choice.

THE UNIVERSITY AND THE EQUALITIES ACT

CUSU NOTES:

1. The Equalities Act 2010, which established 'protected characteristics' of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
2. That Cambridge lags behind other universities in its Equality & Diversity policies, and particularly in respect of disabled students.
3. Last year's Student Advice Service annual report, which highlighted that students with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act were disproportionate users of the service.
4. That the Student Advice Service report revealed that just seven Colleges were responsible for 42% of the students seen last year.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That all Cambridge students have a right to the same level of education and support while they are at Cambridge.
2. That while almost all Cambridge students receive very high quality education, there are still considerable inconsistencies in provision across Colleges and Faculties.
3. That, in the opinion of the Sabbatical Officers, both the University and in particular the Colleges could well be in breach of the Equalities Act.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To attempt to show that the Colleges and the University are in breach of the Equalities Act 2010.
2. To campaign for the Colleges to recognise that they have public equalities duties under the law.
3. To campaign in particular for disabled students to receive the reasonable adjustments that they are legally entitled to.
4. That, given the University have accepted that there is a Gender Attainment Gap, to campaign to make sure it is eliminated.

BLOCK GRANT

CUSU NOTES:

1. That every other University in Britain has a block grant.
2. That CUSU has existed since 1971, and has been formally recognised by the University since 1984, and still has not received any unrestricted direct funding from the University.
3. That the Russell Group average block grant is £1,200,000 a year, and in particular Oxford University Students' Union receives over £380,000 a year.
4. That CUSU has been forced to fund itself by levying college affiliation fees on JCRs and MCRs and spending unreasonable amounts of sabbatical time on commercial operations.
5. That the Graduate Union has for some time received a modest block grant, setting the precedent within Cambridge for central Union funding.

6. That hundreds of students have already signed our block grant petition at University and College Societies Fairs.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the University is shirking its responsibility to properly fund Students' Unions.
2. That we have been successful within our limited funds at defending bursaries, running the largest student-run access scheme in the world, operating a Student Advice Service with minimal funding, and much more.
3. That collecting £108,000,000 from £9k fees and giving zero block grant funding to the Students' Union is completely unjustifiable.
4. That with a block grant we could massively expand our services to our membership, and deliver on even more of our campaigns.
5. That there are significant weaknesses in the college affiliation fee model, by levying undue financial pressure on JCRs and MCRs and leaving services for all students at risk from individual disaffiliations.
6. That the current system of MCRs being 'double charged' by affiliation fees for two Unions is fundamentally unfair and unsustainable, recognising that often MCRs are of particularly limited means.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To make the call for a CUSU block grant the priority campaign for Michaelmas 2011.
2. To encourage JCRs and MCRs to pass a model motion in their own Colleges.
3. To work closely in conjunction with the Graduate Union for a fair, equitable and sustainable financing future of the Students' Unions in Cambridge.

SUPPORT THE NOVEMBER 9 DEMONSTRATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. The NUS demonstration against cuts to higher education and increased university fees, was held in London on 10 th November 2010 and attended by 50,000 university and school students.
2. The success of that demonstration as a catalyst for the student movement against cuts to public spending and higher fees throughout the country.
3. The publication of a White Paper in June 2011 which fails to modify the original proposals for higher education in spite of the overwhelming opposition already displayed.
4. The demonstration called for the 9 th November and fully supported by the NUS against cuts to higher education and increased university fees.
5. These White Paper proposals come at a time of massive cuts to all public spending causing real hardship to students and working people.
6. Current CUSU policy condemning increased university fees and cuts to higher education and to the public sector in general and in support of free university education.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Students at the University of Cambridge are still as opposed to increased fees and cuts to higher education and the public sector as they ever were for all the reasons outlined in current CUSU policy.
2. The only way to resist the White Paper proposals is to resist all cuts to public spending.
3. As many people as possible should attend the demonstration on the 9 th November 2011.

4. That education should be free for everyone.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To support and advertise the demonstration on the 9 th November 2011 to University and school students.
2. To book coaches and use the Council Free Budget to subsidise those coaches to carry university and school students to and from London on the 9 th November 2011.
3. To campaign alongside and co-ordinate with the University and College Union (UCU) and the National Union of Teachers (NUT) against the White Paper proposals and in favour of no fees and no cuts.

RESPONDING TO THE WHITE PAPER

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the Government asked for consultative submissions on the White Paper on the future of Higher Education, 'Students at the heart of the system'.
2. That CUSU produced a submission.
3. That the University Council scathingly criticised the White Paper in its own submission, garnering the Times Higher Education supplement headline "Cambridge savages HE White Paper".
4. That CUSUs feedback at the University Council level and speeches at the Discussion (Appendix B) significantly impacted the tone and severity of the document.
5. That many of the paragraphs in CUSUs responses to the University were directly quoted in the final University Council submission.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the White Paper will be damaging to widening participation, the quality of our education and the ethos of our public university system.
2. That student pressure and activism is essential in forcing the Government to change course.
3. That there continues to be a sustained attempt by Government to monetise our education and turn students into mere consumers.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To continue campaigning against the disastrous effects that the HE White Paper will have on students' education.
2. To instruct the CUSU President to write to the Vice-Chancellor congratulating Cambridge on its initial response, but arguing that it must do more to stop the legislation; and to ensure that the University's commitment to widening participation spending is happening in the most effective and accountable way possible.

SUPPORT THE 30 NOVEMBER STRIKE ACTION

CUSU NOTES:

1. The financial crisis which began in 2008 took £850 billion of public money to bail out banks which continue to pay out billions in bonuses.

2. This is an international crisis of capitalism which has shown no signs of subsiding and the overall cost of this crisis to the UK taxpayer is still not known.
3. Immediately following the bailout the UK Government embarked upon a programme of massive public spending cuts which have increased unemployment, increased inflation and decreased pensions.
4. In response to this Government programme 750,000 working people, including teachers and lecturers, went on strike on 30 th June 2011.
5. The success of co-ordinated strike action in raising awareness among working people that they have as much right to be listened to as those in the financial industry, and in raising awareness among the general public about the way the Government is treating working people.
6. The failure of the government to acknowledge the concerns of working people, resulting in a second wave of co-ordinated strike action culminating in a mass strike planned for the 30 th November 2011 currently backed by the Trade Union Council with at least thirteen unions taking part which have a combined membership of around 3 million people.
7. Wednesday 30 th November 2011 is the last day of lectures in the Michaelmas term.
8. Current CUSU policy opposing cuts to public spending, particularly but not exclusively, in the field of education.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The policy of giving huge amounts of public money to financial institutions and then cutting back on public spending on health, transport and education services is deeply unfair and profoundly regressive.
2. Every Cambridge student makes use of a wide variety of public services which will be affected by current Government policy.
3. The cuts to public spending are part of a coherent and joined-up attack on UK public services and as such, can only be challenged by a coherent and joined-up response from all those affected by the cuts.
4. The strike action which took place on 30 th June 2011 should be praised, and the strike action planned for 30 th November 2011 should be supported by students.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To publicly support all working people taking strike action on 30 th November 2011.
2. To organise a mass walkout of students from the University on the 30 th November 2011 to join with the Cambridge Trades Council rally.
3. To send delegates to Cambridgeshire Trades Council to co-ordinate events for November 30 with Unison and other unions.

ZERO TOLERANCE TO SEXUAL HARASSMENT

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the Hidden Marks report, published in March 2010 by the NUS Women's Campaign, revealed that 68% of women students have experienced sexual harassment while a student at their current institution. Many women students reported experiencing persistent harassment in pubs and club nights, and reported that this kind of behaviour was seen as normal at such an event
2. That 16% of the incidents occurred in a learning environment such as a lecture theatre or library

3. That the NUS's definition of sexual harassment is as follows: The defining characteristics of sexual harassment are that it is unwanted, persistent and of a sexual nature. Examples of unacceptable behaviour include: - Unwanted sexual comments (including comments about your body or private life) - Unwelcome sexual invitations, innuendoes, and offensive gestures - Wolf whistling, catcalling or offensive sexual noises - Groping, pinching or smacking of your body, such as your bottom or breasts - Having your skirt or top lifted without agreeing - Someone exposing their sexual organs to you without consent
4. The zero tolerance to sexual harassment campaign was established by the NUS Women's Campaign with the aim of helping unions create an environment where all students can enjoy their time at university without persistent and unwanted attention of a sexual nature
5. That a number of students' unions including Cardiff, Sheffield, Swansea, and Goldsmiths have already successfully implemented a zero tolerance policy in their Union

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That no student at this institution should be forced to just 'put up' with sexual harassment and that action must be taken to ensure all students are able to enjoy their time at university without experiencing sexual harassment
2. That sexual harassment should not be tolerated, and those who commit acts of sexual harassment should be stopped and disciplined for their actions
3. That although sexual harassment predominantly affects women students, the policy should and must be applicable to all students, regardless of gender, sexuality, or any other characteristic

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To adopt this zero tolerance to sexual harassment policy and publically campaign to challenge the normalization of sexual harassment
2. To mandate the CUSU Women's Officer to support interested parties in individual colleges, departments, bars and clubs in Cambridge in the following:
 - a. ascertaining what the appropriate pathway is for students to complain in the event of an incident of sexual harassment, and to improve the pathway if it is not appropriate
 - b. making this pathway clear and accessible to all students
 - c. providing training for staff members working in bar environments, on both the policy itself and the process for dealing with any incident that occurs
3. To mandate CUSU to review its current disciplinary and complaints procedures to ensure that they fit with the zero tolerance policy
4. To mandate CUSU to put a description of the Zero Tolerance Policy on our website and include it in the Freshers' Guide for 2012.

"DEGRADING IS DEGRADING" CAMPAIGN

CUSU NOTES:

1. The CUSU Disabled Students' Campaign's Degrading is Degrading campaign, which seeks to:
 - a. Change the name of 'degrading' to intermitting or some other neutral term - Remove any and all restrictions on the movements of 'degraded' students and not require students to leave Cambridge. - To ensure that the Disability Resource Centre is consistently informed if students 'degrade', and that their support and advice is made available to all 'degraded' students. - To ensure that detailed policy on the 'degrading' process be made accessible to

all students and that this be enacted equally throughout the collegiate University - To ensure that there is appropriate student representation in deciding the policies that cover 'degraded' students.

2. That this campaign has sparked mass student engagement and involvement, as well as substantial coverage in the student press.
3. That previous CUSU policy mandated the Education and Welfare Officers to campaign against students being required to leave Cambridge if they 'degrade'.
4. That CUSU has had longstanding objections to the 'degrading' process, and has campaigned against the way the system currently works for many years.
5. That the 'degrading' process is inconsistently applied across colleges, with students at some colleges being subject to rules that others are not.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That students who have to take time out from their studies should be supported in the best way possible by their college and the University before and during the 'degrading' process, and upon their return, to allow a full reintegration into Cambridge life.
2. That the current 'degrading' process is not fit for purpose, and that the University and colleges should completely rethink how they support these students.
3. That the name of the process is off-putting and often humiliating for students, and that this could well discourage students from engaging with the process.
4. That the University and the colleges have no legitimate role in deciding where students may live whilst 'degraded' – that is a decision that should rest with the student and should not be a condition of 'degrading'.
5. That the early involvement of the Disability Resource Centre is crucial in supporting these students, and facilitating their return to academic life and that the University and the colleges should ensure that this occurs in all cases where it is relevant.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To fully endorse the 'Degrading is Degrading' campaign, and make it a priority campaign for CUSU.
2. To mandate the Education and Welfare Officers to lobby and campaign within the University to make sure that real changes to the 'degrading' process are achieved, and to report back on their progress to Council by the end of Lent.
3. To encourage students to sign the 'Degrading is Degrading' petition.
4. To allocate £500 from the Council Free Budget towards the pursuit of this campaign.

SUPPORT CAMBRIDGE DEFEND EDUCATION'S SPEAK-OUT ON STUDENTS' IDEAS OF UNIVERSITY ON 22 NOVEMBER

CUSU NOTES:

1. CRASSH is advertising that a 'senior government minister' will be coming to speak in Cambridge on November 22nd . The lecture is being organised under the auspices of CRASSH's 'Idea of the University' series.
2. At the CDE on November 7 th , it was learned that the speaker will be the Rt. Hon. D. Willetts.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The government's White Paper for Higher Education represents a clear and present danger to students' interests.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To actively support and to publicise the speak-out on the Sidgwick site, where the lecture is scheduled to take place, which is being organised by CDE.

UNIVERSITY INTERNET CHARGES

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the provision of the internet to students in Colleges is a necessary requirement of being able to study;
2. That there is wide disparity in the kinds of usage limitations and charges applied by Colleges to students who heavily use their internet connections;
3. That 'extra charges' for students who exceed allocated bandwidth range from £0.07 per GB to £2.00 per GB depending on College, and in some Colleges heavy users are speed-limited or even cut off from the network entirely.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That reliable access to the internet is essential for any student in the 21st Century to be able to work in this University;
2. That Colleges should not seek to profit from internet charges, as they are the middlemen in a University (and indeed, nationally-provided) system of academic networks, for which Colleges are merely clients;
3. That cutting off students just for heavy usage is not a proportionate or acceptable response, even if they can still access public workstations in College;
4. That it is in no-one's interests for such disparity of provision and policy to exist between Colleges.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To take a paper to the Senior Tutors' Welfare & Finance Committee regarding the issue of unfair and disparate internet charges and policy as applied to students;
2. To investigate the true costs for Colleges to provide internet to students, and argue the position that Colleges ought not to make commercial profit from such provision.

SUPPORTING NHS BLOOD AND ORGAN DONATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. That 'NHS Blood and Transplant' is responsible for overseeing voluntary donations of human blood, organs, and tissue continually each year.
2. That the current system for organ donation in England and Wales is 'opt-in', requiring people to sign up to the Organ Donor Register in order to donate their organs or tissue after death.
3. That currently only 29% of the UK population is signed up to the Organ Donor Register, yet a 2003 survey found that 90% of people polled supported organ donation.

4. That approximately 10,000 people a year are waiting to have an organ transplant, and that 1000 of these will die waiting.
5. The number of people needing a transplant is expected to rise steeply over the next decade due to an ageing population, an increase in kidney failure and scientific advances resulting in more people being suitable for a transplant.
6. That blood donation sessions are held regularly nationwide, including at Cambridge, and that sessions on college or student union campuses can be arranged on request.
7. That the rules previously imposing a lifetime ban on giving blood for men who have had oral or anal sex with another man have been changed as of 7 th November 2011, to a 12-month ban on donation from the last date of oral or anal sex.
8. That, unlike the rules (referenced above) on blood donation, anyone aged 17-65 can donate platelets. These cannot be stored long-term and therefore are needed much more regularly.
9. That the facts above are correct as of November 2011. These and more information can be found at the following websites: <http://www.blood.co.uk/>; <http://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/ukt/>; <http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/index.asp>

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That, given the proven medical need for blood, organ, and tissue donation, and the life-changing impact it can have, all members of Cambridge University (including fellows, staff, and students) should be actively encouraged to consider donating.
2. That CUSU should not put pressure on people to donate, but should actively encourage them to consider doing so for the reasons above.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To ensure that college Fresher's Reps or equivalent are asked to remind freshers in their Fresher's Guides or similar that blood and platelet donations occur throughout the year, but that they should be avoided after drinking alcohol and that more information can be found at above websites.
2. To make the President responsible for explicitly publicising, to all CUSU members as well as the GU , any upcoming blood donation sessions in or around Cambridge and to actively encourage them to consider giving blood and bone marroe and signing up to the Organ Donor Register.
3. To mandate the President to arrange for the NHS to hold an annual, campus-wide blood donation session on university premises (e.g. at the Sidgwick, Downing, New Museums and University Library sites) during Full Term, and to notify all members of CUSU and the GU of the time and date in advance.
4. To mandate the President to write to both University and college authorities, urging them to publicise blood donation and bone marrow donation sessions to their own employees in the manner suggested above.

MOTION ON THE WILLETS DISRUPTION

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the 21 November 2011 CUSU Council agreed to support a protest against David Willetts' speech on 22nd November 2011
2. Cambridge Defend Education (CDE) representatives present on the 21 November 2011 misled Council, by omission, in refusing to admit plans to prevent David Willetts from speaking During the event,

students stormed the stage and delivered a 25-minute speech, shutting down the talk, preventing David Willetts from speaking

3. The lecture hall is now occupied
4. That CUSU Council's approval extended only to a 'speak-out', defined during Council as taking place outside the lecture hall
5. That it is questionable that all members of CDE support the actions of the movement in this instance

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the policies of the current government will have a detrimental effect on the provision and access of higher education in the UK
2. That freedom of expression and academic enquiry are fundamental to university life and education
3. That CUSU Council was misled into endorsing action contrary to these principles
4. That we believe students want CUSU to fight the damaging government reforms whilst upholding the principles of freedom of expression and freedom of academic enquiry

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To condemn the actions which prevented students hearing and questioning David Willetts
2. To disassociate CUSU from Cambridge Defend Education
3. To reaffirm CUSU's commitment to fighting against the government cuts in higher education
4. To reaffirm our commitment to academic freedom and the freedom of speech
5. That one of CUSU's fundamental and legal roles is supporting and representing individual students, and that no position this Council takes prejudices this vital service

OCCUPATION OF THE LADY MITCHELL HALL

CUSU NOTES:

1. That Lady Mitchell Hall is now occupied.
2. That the occupation is committed to fighting against the government cuts in higher education, in particular, to oppose the White Paper and to support the 30 November strikes.
3. That the Extraordinary Council on 26 November 2011 resolved "to reaffirm CUSU's commitment to fighting against the government cut in higher education."
4. That the aims of the Lady Mitchell Hall Occupation are consistent with CUSU policy.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the government's White Paper presents an imminent threat to higher education.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To support the above aims of the occupation.
2. To engage the occupiers organising for the 30 November strike.
3. To engage the occupiers organising against the White Paper.

CANDIDATE REIMBURSEMENT IN THE 2012 CUSU ELECTIONS

CUSU NOTES:

1. There is no current provision for giving financial support to anyone who wishes to run as a candidate for Sabbatical office in the CUSU Elections;
2. The Graduate Union has historically done so, offering £50 to each candidate if they can demonstrate incurred expenses in campaigning;
3. It can cost over £50, and in some cases over £100, to run a campaign for Sabbatical office;
4. There is approximately £1000 remaining in the Council Free Budget, as well as £1750 already allocated to the CUSU Elections Committee for spending on the CUSU Elections;
5. Over the last four years the average number of Sabbatical candidates in any given year is 13 (2011=15, 2010=9, 2009=13, 2008=16)

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That encouraging as many people as possible to run in the Elections is for the benefit of CUSU and the student community;
2. That no candidate should be deterred from putting themselves forwards on financial grounds, although the financial cost of running a campaign can be high;
3. That such a vision aligns with our widening participation agenda, so applying it to seeking elected office in CUSU is a natural extension;
4. That CUSU should not move immediately to paying the full costs of people's campaigns, but should trial such a scheme with the limited funds we do have.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To offer candidates up to £50 of reimbursement for legitimately incurred expenses in the course of running for election to a CUSU Sabbatical Office;
2. To top up the CUSU Elections budget with £400 from the Council Free Budget.

CAMBRIDGE ENERGISE POLICY ENDORSEMENT

CUSU NOTES:

1. That it has resolved to support the aims of the Energise Cambridge campaign, including that of persuading the University to adopt a more ambitious policy towards renewable energy.
2. That Energise Cambridge has submitted a policy proposal document to the University's Environmental Strategy Committee, which outlines the campaign's recommendations for said ambitious policy.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That it should do all in its power to support renewable energy at the University of Cambridge.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To endorse the document submitted by Energise Cambridge, in order to give it the full weight of the student voice as it is considered by the aforesaid Committee.

BOYCOTT THE NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To organise a separate survey of students for constructive use by students, CUSU, JCRs, MCRs, and lecturers, outside the structures of the NSS.

SUPPORT THE DISABILITY FUNDING CAMPAIGN

CUSU NOTES:

1. That £500 of emergency funds were allocated to the Disabled Students Campaign's Degrading is Degrading campaign at the CUSU Council in Michaelmas of 2011.
2. That until recently the DRC had only 2 fulltime advisory positions, totalling approximately 1600 hours in term time.
3. That there were 1421 students registered with DRC as of July 2011, a 15% increase from the previous year and the numbers have increased every year in recent years with only 638 in 2006.
4. That the DRC's funding is currently being negotiated with the university and they have been temporarily allocated the funding for one more advisor.
5. That CUSU has a Women's Sabbatical Officer but no Sabbatical position that focuses on Disabled Students and their needs.
6. That the Disabled Students' Campaign wish to run a campaign for increased funding for the Disability Resource Centre, for which funds will be required for publicity materials.
7. That the Disabled Students' Campaign has been forced to not proceed with a large number of projects and campaigns for disabled students because it does not have the resources as a group of disabled students running this alongside their degrees.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the Disability Resource Centre is massively underfunded. That just an hour for each student is far too little and far less than that available at other universities and that this is especially ridiculous given some of the issues accessing Cambridge.
2. That the one additional advisor though useful is nowhere near enough given the massive increases in needs that the Disability Resource Centre has seen over recent years and that given funding is currently under review this is a good opportunity to get further funding for the DRC.
3. That disabled students face a whole range of issues with the university that are not relevant to non-disabled students and that these issues cannot be effectively addressed by an autonomous campaign due to the number of issues faced and the fact that disabled students will tend to be limited in what they can achieve alongside their degrees.
4. That one way to support and campaign for disabled students would be to have a disabled CUSU Sabbatical officer.
5. That the £500, allocated for Degrading is Degrading, would be useful if available for the Disabled Student Campaign's campaign for funding for the DRC and a CUSU Disabled Sabb in addition to the Degrading is Degrading Campaign.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To authorise CUSU Sabbatical officers to support the campaign of the Disabled Students' Campaign, and campaign directly, for more funding for the Disability Resource Centre and for a CUSU Disabled Students Sabbatical Officer.

2. That CUSU allow the Disabled Student Campaign to use the funds allocated for the Degrading is Degrading campaign on this funding campaign.

CONDEMN THE ACTIONS OF TARYN EDWARDS (DIRECTOR OF THE CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE PROGRAMME)

CUSU NOTES:

1. Taryn Edwards, Director of The Cambridge College Programme LLC recruited 41 employees (the majority were students from Cambridge University) to assist on a three week summer program in the summer of 2011.
2. Since the end of the program, the Director has failed to respond to any communication from employees, boathouses and other agents who provided services during the program in addition to the Employment Tribunal.
3. No employees have received payment which amounts to between 1000-2000 per person depending on their position and length of time employed on the program.
4. The website however, has been updated, and indicates that the program will be running this summer.
5. Recruitment was achieved largely through the college's weekly publicity bulletin.
6. Since the summer of 2011, the employees have attempted to resolve this issue through the submission of an on-going claim of non-payment to the UK Employment Tribunal. We have also contacted all JCR Presidents about this issue and have full support from Sidney Sussex College and the Sidney Sussex College Student Union.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The exploitation and non-payment of students is unlawful and wrong.
2. As members of the student union, we have a responsibility to warn other students about exploitation of Cambridge Students.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. CUSU condemns actions of Taryn Edwards, director of CCP and will give full support to the students employed on the program in 2011.
2. Any publicity of the program should be prohibited, through CUSU and/or colleges student unions.
3. If CUSU or any JCRs /MCRs gain any information about the director or the program, they must contact the appointed representative Hannah Alderton, immediately (hra28)
4. No conferencing offices in Cambridge University are to accept Taryn Edwards or bookings for CCP until all outstanding payments are resolved.

SUPPORT STUDENT HUSTS AND THE VOTE FOR STUDENTS CAMPAIGN

CUSU NOTES:

1. That in early May 2012, 14 Cambridge City Council wards will be up for election.
2. That of these 14 wards, 5 directly contain Cambridge University colleges and in some wards more than 50% of the electorate are Cambridge students.

3. That since the 2010 General Election, CUSU has not actively publicised or distributed information about political elections in Cambridge that students are entitled to vote in, including Cambridge City Council Elections.
4. That in the run up to the 2010 General Election, CUSU ran a Vote for Students Campaign that involved candidate husts, as well as a website information page on voting rights, procedures and candidates.
5. That in January 2012, Oxford University Student Union passed a Student Husts motion, calling for OUSU to organise a hustings event for all candidates standing in student wards.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the information provided by political parties and electoral bodies is not enough on its own to inform students sufficiently on voter information or on who to vote for.
2. That Cambridge students should be given as much information as possible about Cambridge City Council elections, given that what elected City Councillors do whilst in office directly affects day-to-day life in the city and therefore the student experience.
3. That CUSU can and should do more to ensure that students are made aware of voting procedures, as well as who their candidates are and what they stand for.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To re-launch the CUSU website Vote for Students information page established in 2010, and to include on this page information about the candidates standing in Cambridge City Council elections and voting procedures.
2. To organise at least one hustings event before the elections, inviting all candidates standing in student wards, and to place a recording of this event on the CUSU website.
3. To organise "voter trains"(walking tours), to the appropriate polling stations on polling day from a central location.
4. To encourage JCRs and MCRs to publicise these elections and to distribute voter information to their respective student bodies in the run-up to polling day.
5. To repeat this exercise for subsequent Cambridge City Council elections.

CAMPAIGNING AGAINST THE WHITE PAPER AND FUNDING INEQUALITY

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the NUS has called for a week of action between 12th and 16th March to protest against Government's higher education policies.
2. That the NUS has also called for a lobby of Parliament on 18th April.
3. That whilst the Higher Education White Paper will not appear as a Bill, many of the most damaging reforms do not actually require legislation, and would never have been included in the Bill.
4. That these reforms will have an extremely damaging effect on widening participation and the quality of higher education across the country.
5. That the NUS is calling for action to vary according to students' unions' local political context, and that studying at Cambridge contains a variety of hidden costs – such as internet charges, compulsory course costs and KFC – that vary hugely across colleges, and that CUSU has long campaigned to eliminate.
6. That financial support for students is also grossly unequal across colleges.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That we should continue to campaign against Government's continually damaging higher education policies.
2. That the fight against the White Paper has not been fully won, and that we need to continue to campaign against Government's plans.
3. That it is important to place higher education funding in the local context of CUSU's other campaigning objectives.
4. That every Cambridge student – independent of their college – should have access to the same financial support.
5. That – especially in the context of tuition fees being tripled – hidden costs to studying a degree are completely unjustifiable.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To organize a creative protest on Wednesday 14th March, providing a focused and targeted message against both Government and the inequities within the Cambridge system.
2. To work with any other group or society that wishes to organize actions and events for the week of action, provided that such activities are consistent with pre-existing CUSU policy.
3. To participate in the NUS lobby of MPs on 18th April, to put pressure on Government to back down from its damaging reforms.

TRUSTEE BOARD REFORM (LENT 2012)

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the CUSU Trustees are ultimately legally and financially responsible for the actions and policy of the Students' Union and its operations, including TCS;
2. That the current Trustees are defined in the Constitution as the President, Education Officer, Access Officer, Coordinator, Ethical Affairs Officer (when they exist) and one external member;
3. That our Board compares unfavourably with other Unions where the average Trustee board is larger, has more external members, more full-time students, and a better gender balance;
4. That the particular situation of the CUSU Women's Officer not being a Trustee skews the gender balance unfavourably, given the composition of most Sabbatical Teams: over the past ten years, if the Trustee team had been composed as it is now, 70% of Sabbaticals who were Trustees would have been men;
5. That the powers of the Trustee Board are undefined in the Constitution;
6. That considerable guidance exists from the NUS and the Charities Commission on the definition of a Trustee Board's legal powers in constitutional documents;
7. That to change this requires a constitutional change, which can only be done through a cross-campus referendum of all students.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That having a representative Trustee Board is important for any Union, and especially a Students' Union with an engaged, active and diverse student body;
2. That it is in the interest of democratic procedure that the powers of the Trustee Board are defined in the Constitution, rather than assumed and unstated;
3. That external members bring useful experience and expertise to a Trustee Board, and that to include external members is best practice;

4. That redressing the gender gap across Cambridge requires doing so in our own organisation, which means the CUSU Women's Officer ought to have a vote and a voice at senior levels;
5. That having non-sabb students on our Trustee Board will improve both the accountability of the Board to Council, as well as offer a chance for committed students to most seriously contribute to CUSU without taking a sabbatical role;
6. That due to the largely legal and financial aspects of the Boards responsibility, which fall under the day-to-day responsibility of the CUSU Coordinator, that it is not best practice that the CUSU Coordinator should be a Trustee.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To propose a constitutional referendum, in tandem with the cross-campus elections, on the following amendments to the Constitution and the Standing Orders;
 - a. The composition of the Trustee Board should be:
 - i. Four Sabbatical Officers – President, Education, Access and Women's;
 - ii. The CUSU Chair;
 - iii. Two other students appointed by CUSU Council;
 - iv. Two external members appointed by CUSU Council;
 - v. Attendance rights (but not voting rights) extended to the other Sabbatical Officers of CUSU;
 - b. The powers of the Board should be defined:
 - i. With regards to their legal responsibilities to avoid undue legal and financial risk to the Union;
 - ii. With regards to their legal entitlement to oversee commercial and strategic decisions;
 - iii. With regards managing the investment of the Union's reserves and investments, including any commercial arms which may exist from time to time;
 - iv. As explicitly only such powers the Constitution mentions, and no further;
 - v. With regards to the Board's de facto legal duties over staff employment, explicitly not including the ability to terminate the employment of Sabbatical Officers;
 - c. Standing Orders should govern the way that Trustees are appointed, as well as specific rules on meeting conduct;
 - d. There should be an appropriate definition of the word 'Board' in the Constitutional documents
2. To leave the exact phrasing of the referendum question and the conduct of the referendum to the discretion of the Elections Committee.

DEGRADED STUDENTS ARE OUR MEMBERS TOO!

CUSU NOTES:

1. The CUSU Constitution currently does not accord membership of CUSU to students who have degraded;
2. CUSU policy existing which expresses solidarity and support for equal opportunity and provision for degraded and intermitting students at Cambridge:
 - a. 'Degrading is Degrading Campaign' passed in Michaelmas 2011;
 - b. 'Campaign Against the University's Antiquated Rules for Degrading' passed in Easter 2011;
 - c. 'Ensuring Access for Disabled Students to University Events' passed in Michaelmas 2009.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Degraded students have usually experienced significant hardship, and may have availed or continue to avail of CUSU's services through welfare provision or representation;
2. We ought to accord them the rights of membership as a response, which would include the right to vote in elections while they are out of residence.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To propose an amendment to the Constitution by referendum, in tandem with the cross-campus elections, to redefine our membership to include degraded or intermitting students;
2. To leave the exact phrasing of the referendum question and the conduct of the referendum to the discretion of the Elections Committee.

TRUSTEE BOARD REFORM (EASTER 2012)

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the principles of reforming the Trustee Board remain important;
2. That important changes to the governance of the Union need to happen to keep CUSU accountable and linked to its members;
3. That a second referendum, based on a more simplified question of simply altering the Trustee Board, and with appropriate publicity, will generate a quorate vote.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To hold a referendum in this Easter Term on the question of altering the Constitutional provisions for the Trustee Board;
2. To schedule this as closely as possible to the Graduate Union's impending referendum as possible for maximum impact.

SUPPORT THE CAMBRIDGE LIVING WAGE CAMPAIGN

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That all university and college workers and contractors should earn enough money to cover their basic needs;
2. That the people who clean our rooms, serve our meals, maintain our gardens, and secure our buildings provide essential support to our student experience, and deserve a decent quality of life;
3. That the Living Wage affirms these principles;
4. That the University and its colleges can and should afford to make the necessary adjustments to finances in order to achieve this aim;
5. That now is the appropriate time for CUSU to add its support to this cause, which has had so much success in the past and has built up so much momentum in the national student movement.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To affirm its support for the Cambridge University Living Wage Campaign;

2. To call upon the University to pay all its employees and contractors the Living Wage, and to submit a written document to that effect to the University management;
3. To encourage JCRs and MCRs to pursue their own Living Wage campaigns within their colleges and to provide support and advice for those that wish to do so;
4. To make the Living Wage Campaign a CUSU campaign, and to promote and publicise it as such.

SAY NO TO DANGEROUS TAX HIKES

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That philanthropy to the University and the Colleges forms a substantial component of its funding, and enables Cambridge's extensive learning resources and student support packages for current and future students;
2. That while many Colleges are hugely wealthy, many are not, and these changes could serve to widen collegiate inequality by making it more difficult for Colleges to close the gap with philanthropy;
3. That CUSU itself stands to benefit from philanthropy, which could enable student campaigning, widening participation work and other activities, and that these changes damage CUSU's prospects as a result;
4. That there are far less damaging tax loopholes to close than these;
5. That, through the protection of historic buildings, the University has a wider role to play in preserving heritage of international importance for future generations.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Executive to lobby local and national politicians to oppose these changes;
2. To mandate the CUSU Executive to express opposition to these plans in the media and in consultation exercises;
3. To mandate the CUSU Executive to work with University officials to oppose these changes.

OWN HOLLAND MOTION

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That a seven-term suspension was a disproportionate response to the action's of this student;
2. That, irrespective of the motivations of the Court of Discipline, this sentence could deter students in the future from engaging in legitimate acts of protest;
3. That this student has been singled out for an action that many other students and academics have since admitted to taking part in, and asked to be charged with the same offence;
4. That this case identifies serious failings with the way in which the University's current disciplinary procedures work, such as students not being permitted to bring their CUSU representative with them to the hearing, and opacity in the appointments procedure for members of the Court of Discipline;
5. That CUSU will not endorse any protest which it believes to be violent or that impedes freedom of speech.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To continue to campaign for the disproportionate sentence to be overturned;

2. To publicise the solidarity demonstration that is organised in the event of an appeal hearing, subject to assurances being sought in advance from the organizers that the solidarity demonstration will be in line with pre-existing CUSU policy;
3. To reaffirm CUSU's condemnation of the interruption of David Willetts' speech;
4. To mandate the CUSU Education Officer to campaign for a review of the University's disciplinary procedures.

SUPPORTING BME ACCESS

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Our access work should concentrate explicitly more on BME Access;
2. CUSU should provide more support to BME representatives and promote greater cohesion among the officers.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To encourage and support JCRs and MCRs in having an officer formally responsible for BME issues;
2. To hold a meeting, at least termly, put on by the CUSU BME Access Officer, or the CUSU Access Officer in lieu of a BME Access Officer, for JCR officers responsible for BME issues.

AFFILIATION TO CAMBRIDGE COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICES

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That CCVS is a valuable resource and representative organisation for charities within Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire;
2. That CCVS offers good value for money with affiliation fees costing £50 per year;
3. That CUSU would benefit from the services CCVS offers as well as involving itself in the wider voluntary and charitable community in Cambridge.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To affiliate to CCVS;
2. To ensure that the benefits of membership of CCVS are utilized across CUSU wherever possible.

RECOGNISING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COMMITTED AND PASSIONATE STUDENTS

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That a students' union can only succeed with the hard and tireless work of committed and passionate students, and it is right that we give special thanks to those who have given an extra-special contribution to CUSU's work;
2. That Alex [Wood]'s devotion to duty in the Save Our Bursaries campaign was extremely impressive, and his efforts were quite possibly the difference between failure and success;
3. That Esther [Leighton] has demonstrated extraordinary tenacity in trying to change an 800 year-old institution, that doesn't change quickly, in areas that it has a particular disinclination to change at all,

and that [therefore] her success in the Degrading is Degrading campaign was well-earned and well-justified.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To recognize Alex Wood and Esther Leighton for their tremendous work for CUSU, and to mandate the CUSU President to write to them formally thanking them for their contributions to making Cambridge a better place for students, current and prospective.

RECOGNISING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF EXCELLENT SABBATICAL OFFICERS

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Gerard Tully and Taz Rasul ought to be honorary life members.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To formally recognize Gerard Tully and Taz Rasul for their manifold contributions to CUSU;
2. To accord Gerard Tully and Taz Rasul all the rights and privileges of honorary life membership until this policy lapses;
3. To direct the CUSU President and Education Officer to prepare a report in the format of a Council motion that would nominate Gerard Tully and Taz Rasul for Honorary Life Membership, for Easter II Council, 2013;
4. To direct the CUSU President and Education Officer to nominate Gerard Tully and Taz Rasul for Honorary Life Membership at Easter II Council, 2013;
5. To mandate the CUSU President to write to them, not before Michaelmas Council I, formally thanking them for their contributions to making Cambridge a better place for students, current and prospective.

OPPOSING POTENTIAL MAY BUMPS PROTESTS

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the right to a peaceful protest is an inalienable one, and fundamental to the principles of CUSU;
2. That violent threats and verbal abuse is unacceptable;
3. That the rowers in Cambridge have a right to race in Bumps safely and without harassment, and any action designed to harm a participant, spectator or bystander should be met with all actions necessary to curtail them;
4. That Ian Bone's messages are nothing more than a string of insults, and that any action to disrupt May Bumps will be meaningless;
5. That as 'Class War', the organisation to which Ian Bone belongs, have organised similar protests in the past; thus cannot be taken as delusional despite the language used;
6. That there is a realistic possibility that someone could be harmed, deliberately or inadvertently, which could only be determined by the exact nature of the protestors' actions;
7. That working class students that attend the University are not, as he claims, 'class traitors'

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To work with the University, CUCBC, Cam Conservators, Cambridge City/County Councils, Cambridgeshire constabulary, and other relevant bodies to ensure the safe running of May Bumps;
2. To publicly express opposition to Ian Bone's position and any actions taken to disrupt May Bumps or other University/student events.

STUDENT TRUSTEE SELECTION

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the passage of the referendum demonstrates that students do want this change to occur, and as such we should expedite the implementation of student trustees.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To establish a selection board consisting of:
 - (a) Gerard Tully and Morgan Wild – The CUSU President and Education Officer
 - (b) Ruth Graham, Ben Wheawell and Will Oram – The Womens' Officer, the Homerton Union of Students President and the Queens' JCR President
 - (c) James Counsell and Rosalyn Old – The Membership Engagement Officer and the President-elect
2. To immediately open and publicise applications for a period as long as practically possible;
3. To instruct the CUSU Chair to organise a third CUSU Council meeting in the final week of Easter Term.

CUSU COUNCIL 2012-13

LAPSING POLICY

CUSU NOTES:

1. The renewal of lapsing policy to Michaelmas CUSU Council 1.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Term has not allowed for Teams to meet to discuss this before Michaelmas Council
2. Consideration of lapsing CUSU policy should be led by the entire part-time executive, not just the sabbatical officers.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To renew all lapsing policy until Michaelmas CUSU Council 2.

APPOINTMENT OF STUDENT TRUSTEES

CUSU NOTES:

1. The Selection Group tasked with recommending the appointment of student trustees was established at CUSU Council earlier in Easter Term, its membership being as follows:
 - a. From the sabbatical team: Gerard Tully and Morgan Wild (President and Education Officer)
 - b. From members of Council: Ruth Graham, Ben Wheawell and Will Oram (Women's Officer, Homerton Union of Students President, and Queens' JCR President)
 - c. From the part-time executive: Rosalyn Old and James Counsell (President-elect and Membership Engagement Officer)
2. That the Group received ten applications, of which six were called to interview, and two are now recommended for appointment.
3. That Standing Orders require that the Democracy and Development Team present the recommendations of the Group to Council for approval. Only members of the Democracy and Development team also sitting on the Group took part in the selection process.
4. That the term of office for these transitional appointments will be from the confirmation of the CUSU Council Michaelmas 1 2012 minutes to the 22nd April 2013, inclusive.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the standard of the applications were exceptionally high, including many students with impressive achievements, charitable and third sector experience, and compelling reasons for their appointment, giving the Group a very difficult decision.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To appoint Imogen Schön to the CUSU Board of Trustees as a student trustee.
2. To appoint Thomas Towers to the CUSU Board of Trustees as a student trustee.

NUS NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. That at the last NUS conference in April the NUS voted to hold national demonstration.
2. That the NUS has planned 'Demo 2012 – Educate. Employ. Empower' for the 21st November 2012 in London.
3. The NUS Demo 2012 website describes that the idea of the demonstration is for students to “stand up for their future”, alongside local communities, as well as emphasising the value of the public good of education.
3. That CUSU has pre-existing policy to campaign for free education.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. This demonstration is a chance for Cambridge students to showcase a positive outlook of how we would like to see the education system for future generations.
2. This year is a key stage in building up to the next general election in terms of influencing education policy.
3. That Cambridge students have had a strong presence at previous NUS demonstrations.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To organise coaches, open to all students, to travel to the NUS national demonstration on the 21st November.
2. For the President to liaise with Anglia Ruskin SU and UCU regarding combining transport for the event.
3. To allocate up to £200 from the Council free budget for coach hire.
4. For the CUSU Executive to publicise the demonstration to Cambridge University students.

UPHOLDING SAFE SPACE POLICY AT CUSU COUNCIL

CUSU NOTES:

1. 10% of the undergraduate and 45% of the postgraduate student community of the University of Cambridge are non-EU/UK students.
2. According to clauses A1 and A3 in CUSU constitution ,CUSU represents all students regardless of their nationality, race, political affiliation, religion, sexual orientation, and gender.
3. CUSU has an existing Safe Space policy that strives to maintain an open atmosphere of debate and discussion at CUSU Council without fear of intimidation or discrimination regardless of belief or background
4. A comment made about the grammar of a motion submitted to CUSU Council Michaelmas I 2012 (for which an apology was offered following an objection to the comment)

5. A remark made at council describing non-fluency in the English language as a disability
6. That it denounces all forms of racism.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Equality and democracy are key values held by CUSU.
2. CUSU is a democratic body that encourage should participation and freedom of speech.
3. Disparaging, mocking remarks are unhelpful to debate and do not serve to maintain an atmosphere of respect and tolerance
4. Making mistakes in writing or speaking English is not a disability.
5. It is the responsibility of the chair of CUSU to aid students in writing motions, ensure Safe Space is upheld and no-one is discriminated against during Council and Open meetings,.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm its Safe Space Policy and ensure current and future CUSU Chairs are aware of and trained in its implementation.
2. To mandate the CUSU Chair and/or President to send a formal apology to members of Council and iCUSU for the remarks made Michaelmas I about disabilities and international students.
3. To mandate the CUSU Chair or Secretary to ensure motions are of a reasonable standard of English before being added to the agenda and, if not, to take reasonable steps to ensure they are.

STUDENT PARENT REPRESENTATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. That there are around 900 students with children in this university.
2. That the University has a commitment to ensuring student parents are not disadvantaged as a result of their status.
3. That student parents have different needs from students without children.
4. There are access issues for prospective students with children.
5. That CUSU has, since September, been working with a student parent working group to identify the issues faced by student parents.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the issues student parents face can be resolved but they require someone dedicated to the job.
2. That the person best placed to understand the issues will be a student parent.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To create the post of Student Parents Representative within the Welfare Team.
2. To hold an election for this post.
3. To ensure that the person who runs for the post is themselves a student parent.
4. To mandate the Student Parent Representative to write a regular blog about life at Cambridge University in order to make it clear that it is possible to be a student parent at this University. This blog will be posted on the access page.
5. To investigate funding needs with the appropriate officers and, if necessary, to bring a motion proposing the allocation of funding to Council by the end of Michaelmas term.

COMMUNICATIONS AND CUSU OPEN MEETINGS

CUSU NOTES:

1. That any student can attend and participate in CUSU Council;
2. That CUSU has a weekly bulletin during term time which goes to every student on Sunday nights;
3. That currently agenda papers and notification of when and where CUSU Council is taking place, only goes to CUSU Council voting members and members of the Executive;
4. That CUSU Council is now on a Monday, so agenda papers, venues and dates should all be known by the time the CUSU Bulletin goes out on Sunday night;
5. That occasionally the 'CUSU Council' Page on the website with details of agendas, times and dates of Council and minutes are not fully updated;
6. That feedback to students about what has been going on in CUSU Council does not always happen via their representatives;
7. That when motions and amendments are brought too late to be included in the agenda, it is often hard for CUSU Members who were not present at Council and Open Meetings to work out exactly what was under discussion and what text eventually passed or failed at vote.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That all students should have access to when and where CUSU Council is and what is on the agenda;
2. That the more students that attend CUSU Council, the more student voices will be heard;
3. That feedback to students about what is going on in CUSU Council is important, as this is CUSU's ultimate decision-making body.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU President to put notice of the date, time and venue of CUSU Council on the CUSU Bulletin on the Sunday before Council, and to include a link to the online agenda and supporting documentation;
2. To mandate the Chair and Secretary to place the final version of the agenda and the confirmed minutes on the website as soon as possible;
3. To put a link to the CUSU Website on the Bulletin when confirmed minutes have been uploaded;
4. To give this high priority on the bulletin;
5. To mandate the CUSU Chair, CUSU Secretary and CUSU Coordinator to ensure that agendas, minutes, times and venues of CUSU Council continue to be updated on the CUSU website;
6. To do the same for all Open Meetings.

TIMING OF OPEN MEETINGS

CUSU NOTES:

1. Section E.8 of the constitution which contains: 'Dates, times and venues of Meetings shall be decided by the Chair'
2. That there has not been a quorate open meeting for some time.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Students would be more likely to attend a CUSU Open Meeting not held at the very end of full term.
2. Holding a CUSU Open Meeting early in Michaelmas full term would give first year students the chance to engage with CUSU soon after they arrive.
3. The CUSU Open Meeting in Easter term should be held in the first three weeks of full term.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the Chair, in consultation with the Democracy & Development Team, to consider carefully the timing of Open Meetings based on the believes of this motion.

SKY TV: SUBSCRIPTION FEES

CUSU NOTES:

1. That a number of Common Rooms in Cambridge subscribe to Sky TV as a service to their members;

2. That Common Rooms do not benefit financially from this arrangement;
3. That Sky TV nevertheless treat Common Rooms as commercial operations – such as pubs or bars – and accordingly charge a commercial rate of approximately £4,400 annually;
4. That, relative to Common Room expenditure, this is a significant amount of money.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That Sky TV have failed to distinguish between student-run, membership-based college Common Rooms and full-scale commercial operations such as pubs or bars;
2. That Sky TV have therefore failed to understand the Oxbridge collegiate system;
3. That £4,400 is a significant financial burden for Common Rooms, taking resources away from welfare provision, support for clubs and societies, and other Common Room activities;
4. That some Common Rooms are currently unable to justify expenditure on Sky TV at all;
5. That Sky TV are not charging Common Rooms appropriately;
6. That many students benefit from and enjoy the services offered by Sky TV.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU President to contact Sky TV on behalf of the Common Rooms to negotiate a fairer charge for their services;
2. To invite each Common Room (in the person of the President or a deputy) to add their signature to the initial correspondence;
3. To coordinate these efforts with the Common Room Support Officer and other appropriate members of the Executive of Oxford University Students' Union (OUSU).

A RIGHT TO USE COMPUTERS IN EXAMS

CUSU NOTES:

1. That students must ordinarily use pen and paper in exams unless they have a specific requirement to use a computer as a result of a disability;
2. That, in the outside world, electronic word processing is now the norm, and handwriting is a skill that is increasingly rarely used in most fields of employment;
3. That, in most Triposes, students tend to spend the entire year submitting work to supervisors electronically, with minimal practice writing anything by hand;
4. That some supervisors actually insist upon receiving work in an electronic format, refusing to mark work that has been handwritten;
5. That the illegibility of handwritten exam scripts causes significant problems and delays in the marking process;
6. That examiners receive a perfectly clear script to mark when it has been produced electronically;
7. That, when scripts have been produced electronically, examiners can electronically annotate them easily and clearly, and also forward both scripts and annotations on to external examiners in an unambiguously clear way;
8. That many institutions have become 'paperless' in an effort to support the environment;
9. That, even if subsequently printed for marking purposes, the production of most exam scripts electronically would result in the examination system using substantially less paper than at present.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That for students who spend the year submitting written work electronically, the necessity to revert to pen and paper for exams can cause undue stress;
2. That mature students, who have often spent several years using electronic word processors as part of previous careers, are especially disadvantaged by the requirement to handwrite exams;
3. That, since the skill of handwriting neatly and legibly is not an indicator of knowledge, understanding or the ability to develop an argument, it should not be an expectation in—or a skill assessed by—the examination process;
4. That all students should have the right to use computers in University exams;
5. That students exercising this right would not need to be concerned with neatness or legibility of presentation

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To encourage the University to provide the facilities to give all students the choice to write exam papers using either pen and paper or a keyboard and monitor.

EDUCATION IS ABOUT MORE THAN ACADEMIC WORK

CUSU NOTES:

1. That CUSU continues to campaign to defend the right of students to take advantage of the full range of opportunities that studying in Cambridge offers;
2. That the specific policy underlying such efforts titled 'Extra Curricular Activities' is lapsing;
3. That many students still find themselves unduly pressured to devote time to their academic work to an extent that is detrimental to their broader personal development.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the educational experience in Cambridge is about much more than the content of academic courses;
2. That students do indeed have the right to judge for themselves how they balance their academic and extracurricular activities;
3. That, in particular, students should not require permission' from their College to engage in extracurricular activities;
4. That academic room balloting can create perverse incentives that encourage students to focus too narrowly on academic work to the detriment of their broader personal development;
5. That the lapsing policy should therefore be renewed.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To (continue to) campaign to defend the right of students to take advantage of the full range of opportunities that studying in Cambridge offers;
2. To (continue to) offer CUSU's full support to Common Rooms who wish to campaign to safeguard or improve provision or support for extracurricular activities within their College.

FEES FOR STUDENTS SPENDING ACADEMIC YEARS ABROAD

CUSU NOTES:

1. That there are a large number of Cambridge degree courses which involve the opportunity to spend an academic year abroad;
2. That the ways students spend these years abroad range enormously, from relatively unstructured programmes of work experience to programmes of full-time university teaching;
3. That some students spending years abroad are therefore charged 50% tuition fees for very little discernable teaching, whereas others are charged 50% tuition fees for no less teaching than they would be charged 100% tuition fees for back in Cambridge;

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the level of tuition fees payable by Cambridge students spending years abroad does not correspond to the level of teaching they receive (from Cambridge or any other university);
2. That differences in the costs of courses with years abroad also have access implications (i.e. implications upon the proportions of applicants they receive from different backgrounds);
3. That the real costs to students of studying years abroad are complicated by UK (and EU) rules as well as by the differential provision of bursaries to students in different subject areas;
4. That this issue is sufficiently complicated for the development of new policy to require significant consultation.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Education Team and the CUSU Access and Funding Team to take joint responsibility for the development of fair and coherent policy on the charging of fees to students who spend academic years abroad.

FAIRTRADE STATUS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CUSU NOTES:

1. The CUSU Ethical Consumerism campaign to gain Fairtrade status for Cambridge University.
2. Existing CUSU policy on the need for its stash to be Fairtrade whenever possible.
3. The five goals to be met by a university in order to gain Fairtrade status:
4. The Student Union and the university or college authorities both create a Fairtrade policy incorporating these five goals.
5. Fairtrade foods are made available for sale in all campus shops. Fairtrade foods are used in all cafés/restaurants/bars on campus. Where this is not possible, there is a commitment to begin to use Fairtrade foods in these establishments as soon as it becomes possible to do so.
6. Fairtrade foods (for example, coffee and tea) are served at all meetings hosted by the university or college and the Student Union (or equivalent), and are served in all university or college and Student Union management offices.
7. There is a commitment to campaign for increased Fairtrade consumption on campus.
8. A Fairtrade Steering Group is established, on which there sets a representative from the catering department, the university authority, the SU executive, an appropriate SU society.
9. That due to its collegiate system, in order for Cambridge University to gain Fairtrade status, two thirds of the Colleges must gain this accreditation individually. However, university sites such as the University Centre already follow the requirements above.
10. That five colleges - St Catherine's; King's; Pembroke; Jesus; Fitzwilliam – already have Fairtrade status, whilst several others are currently in the application stage or have applications pending.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the defence of human and workers' rights is of paramount importance and in line with both CUSU's and the University's core values.
2. That buying Fairtrade produce provides support to some of the most marginalised producers in the world, by guaranteeing their basic rights and protecting them from the injustices of the global trade system.
3. It is important that students understand the implications of their buying choices and be part of a Union which upholds the values of Fair trade.
4. That gaining Fairtrade status for Cambridge University would be a valuable achievement in that it would see an increase in Fairtrade consumption within the university and raise awareness about the importance of Fairtrade.
5. That CUSU should lead by example, and have policy that coheres with its campaigns, and therefore needs to adopt a Fairtrade policy.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Ethical Consumerism Officer, with the help of the Ethical Affairs team, to:
2. Produce a document to explain the case for Fairtrade, and the process of applying for Fairtrade status to Cambridge Students.
3. Produce an annual report, to be presented to Council in Lent Term, outlining the progress towards the University Fairtrade Status goal and highlighting likely challenges and obstacles to be faced by the succeeding Ethical Consumerism Officer.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

CUSU NOTES:

1. CUSU Lapsing Policy on Holocaust Memorial Day.
2. Holocaust Memorial Day is commemorated internationally on 27th January each year.
3. Holocaust Memorial Day aims to remember the victims and survivors of the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and those affected by subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and during the ongoing atrocities in Darfur (Holocaust Memorial Day Trust).
4. A variety of events are organised each year within Cambridge, by University societies and Cambridge City Council for Holocaust Memorial Day.
5. CUSU officers, teams and autonomous campaigns affirm the importance of diversity and equality in the Cambridge community and take proactive steps to ensure that the University is an inclusive place for every student.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. It is important that students respect and celebrate the differences between individuals and communities, based upon the notion of universal dignity and equal rights and responsibilities for all its citizens.
2. It is important to raise awareness and understanding of the events of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides as a continuing issue for all humanity, based on a recognition that it could happen again anywhere and at any time, unless we ensure that our society opposes discrimination, persecution and racism.

3. That Holocaust Memorial Day events and resources provided by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust are a good way for students to challenge prejudice and remember what can happen when racism and discrimination are left unchecked.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To continue to support local Holocaust Memorial Day events and activities, and in doing so to remember all victims of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides.
2. To denounce all forms of Holocaust Denial.

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. Lapsing policy: Peterhouse Student Representation and Bursars' Committee Representation.
2. The University has allowed student representation on its Council since 1975.
3. Some Colleges, including St John's and Peterhouse, still do not allow student representation on their own College Council or Governing Bodies.
4. The existence of the Bursars' Committee, as referred to by the Reporter (Special No. 4 (Members of University Bodies), p78, 2007), the minutes of several College committee meetings and discussions with Cambridge City Council.
5. Cambridge students are denied representation on the Bursars' Committee and access to its agenda, minutes and work plan.
6. Cambridge students are represented on the Joint Advisory Committee (a joint subcommittee of the Bursars' and Senior Tutors' Committees) by the CUSU President and GU President.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. Students should be represented on their College's Council or Governing Body by elected common room officers.
2. Students should be represented on the Bursars Committee by a CUSU sabbatical officer.
3. Student representation on these bodies would increase CUSU's ability to support JCR/MCRs and campaign on student matters – particularly those involving rents, facilities and regulations.
4. Student representation on these bodies would give JCR/MCR representatives a better negotiating position with regards to room rents.
5. That dialogue between students and Colleges is a better way of solving problems than imposing policy on students without consultation.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the Democracy and Development Team to support JCR/MCRs in their attempts to gain representation on College Councils and Governing Bodies.
2. To campaign for CUSU representation on the Bursars' Committee through relevant channels.

YOUTH FIGHT FOR JOBS

CUSU NOTES:

1. Youth Fight for Jobs was launched through a “March for Jobs” to the G20 meeting in London on 2nd April.
2. Youth Fight for Jobs is backed by three major Trade Unions which are the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS), Communication and Workers' Union (CWU), and the Rail, Maritime and Transport Union (RMT).
3. The lecturers’ union, the UCU, predicts that across the country this term university managements will carry out £65 million worth of cuts, resulting in up to 6,000 redundancies.
4. In July 2009, 600,000 young people left school, college and university swelling the ranks of unemployed youth. Youth unemployment now stands at around one million.
5. Youth Fight for Jobs has called for a national demonstration in London on the 28th November under the slogan of “For Real Jobs – For Free Education.”
6. The Youth Fight for Jobs campaign calls for a programme of government job creation and for an end to job losses. It is campaigning around three main demands: For the right to a decent job for all, with a living wage of at least £8 an hour; abolition of cheap labour apprenticeships, for all apprenticeships to pay at least the minimum wage, with a job guaranteed at the end; abolition of university fees.
7. CUSU policy “Education – a right not a privilege.”
8. CUSU policy “Protests.”

CUSU BELIEVES

1. Students' Unions have a particular responsibility in campaigning on the gap between qualified young people and available jobs.
2. Students’ Unions have a responsibility to campaign against cuts and job losses in the education sector, to preserve high quality education.
3. It is urgent that we contribute to building a mass campaign that opposes the lifting of the cap on top-up fees, and also opposes all university fees and fights for a decent education system and for decent jobs for all.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To support the Youth Fight for Jobs campaign and add our name to the list of sponsors.

COMPLAINTS

CUSU NOTES:

1. The importance of transparent, clear and well administered University complaints procedures;
2. That there are several complaints procedures available to students in the University (not even including complaints procedures in each college);
3. The role of the CUSU Student Support Officers (Welfare, Education and Women’s) in providing information, support and advice to students making complaints;
4. Currently, some University complaints can take up to or longer than a year to resolve;
5. That Cambridge is one of the few Universities in the Russell Group that does not place time limits on the resolution of complaints;

6. That the national best practice outlined by the NUS charter on institutional complains and appeals procedures argues that institutions should normally resolve complaints and appeals within three months.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. We have a right to study free from discrimination, harassment and bullying and in the event where this is not upheld or compromised by inappropriate behaviour every student has the right to complain about this informally and/or formally;
2. It is important that every student should have access to support and advice when deciding whether, and how, to make a complaint;
3. A robust, clear and transparent University Complaints Procedure is necessary and the following issues should be considered when making such improvements:
 - a) Improved guidance and information on the website as well as FAQs and information sheets on the process to improve support for students throughout the process;
 - b) A robust informal process so complaints can be resolved through an informal process before it escalates further;
 - c) A time limit on resolution and communication to the student in the event the timescale is not upheld;
5. That the University should review its complaints procedures and make the necessary changes as outlined in CUSU Believes 3;
6. That all of the above applies to college complaints procedures, and that these should be freely available to students.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Welfare and Education Officer to continue to:
 - a. Campaign for a review of all University Complaints processes, as per the principles in CUSU Believes 2
2. To provide guidance and support to Common Room committees to review college complaint procedures and campaign to ensure they are in line with the principles above;

DISABLED STUDENTS ACCESS

CUSU NOTES:

1. That numerous societies organize events in venues without access for disabled people and/or fail to make reasonable adjustments so everyone can take part;
2. That societies do not usually advertise the accessibility of a venue or event (e.g. level access, a hearing loop, accessible toilets, documents available in large print/different coloured paper);
3. That disabled students may spend undue effort trying to establish whether they will be able to access an event, be missing out on events because they are not accessible or experiencing significant disadvantage because of insufficient accessibility;
4. That there currently is an Access Guide to the university, available online and in hard copy, but it is not always detailed enough about venues where events are held to allow bookings to be made taking access into account;

5. That the Equalities Act requires CUSU to make 'reasonable adjustments' for disabled people and such adjustments ought to be considered in advance, as well as making sure there is a way for disabled students to ask for further adjustments, if needed.
6. That eliminating disability discrimination in Cambridge is in the ethos of "Cambridge University Stands Up".
7. That many college buildings remain inaccessible to physically disabled students.
8. That disability comes in many forms, not all of them physical.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. In the social model of disability.
2. Disability issues can best be tackled by removing barriers such as
 - a. prejudice and stereotypes
 - b. inflexible organisational procedures and practices
 - c. inaccessible information; and
 - d. inaccessible buildings and transport"
5. a. That disabled students are valued in their contribution to Cambridge University and should not be knowingly excluded from full participation in university life.
 - a. Therefore, CUSU should take an active role in trying to identify and remove disabling barriers across all its practices, and to encourage others to do the same, in order to promote equal treatment for disabled students.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Disabled Students Officer and the CUSU Welfare Officer to produce a guide to organizing accessible events, and make it available via the CUSU Website;
2. To mandate the CUSU Coordinator to distribute a PDF of this guide around all of the Cambridge University societies, JCRs and MCRs. To attach this to an email explaining the beliefs of this motion;
3. To actively encourage University groups and societies to do ensure that all events they organise are accessible to disabled people (including, but not limited to, booking accessible venues), unless it is wholly unreasonable to do so;
4. To provide assistance for groups and societies who seek to improve access for disabled people at their events;
5. To engage with inaccessible venues to encourage them to make reasonable adjustments;
6. To encourage University groups and societies to include information about levels of accessibility when advertising events.
7. To mandate the CUSU Welfare Officer to work with JCRs and MCRs to encourage better access arrangements in their colleges

UP FRONT FEES

CUSU NOTES:

1. A number of JCRs and MCRs have previously complained of sudden and significant changes to the way in which colleges collect money from their students;
2. Some colleges require international students to pay course fees up front instead of paying in termly instalments;
3. A number of colleges require a deposit at the start of each year and this is often not advertised to prospective students;
4. These deposits are often taken at the start of the first term of the first year and not returned until the final term of the final year.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The payment requirements for some international and College fees are not well advertised to current students or incoming students, who are only made aware of this requirement upon arrival in Cambridge;
2. Colleges have a responsibility to ensure that any significant changes to payment of college bills/course fees are effectively communicated to those affected;
3. That presenting students with unexpected bills can cause unnecessary financial and emotional stress particularly among new students, who incur a higher number of significant one-off charges;
4. That not all students are able to produce thousands of pounds with only a few weeks' notice;
5. Taking unexpected deposits from students at a time when they incur a significant number of one off costs and may not have received their bursary or student loan income is unfair;
6. That requiring all students to pay a significant upfront deposit disproportionately affects students of low incomes and disadvantaged backgrounds, in particular independent students and young carers;
7. Furthermore, it is detrimental to Access.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Access team to use the College Database to gather initial comparative data on up-front fees from colleges, and to run a separate initiative to gather this data if it is not forthcoming on the College Database;
2. To mandate the Common Room Support Officer to subsequently compile a report on up-front charges and fees levied by colleges on students;
3. To support individual JCR and MCR Committees in using this report during discussions with their specific colleges regarding their up-front fees.

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENTS POLICY

CUSU NOTES:

1. That, whilst the Statement of Investment Responsibility (Reporter, 2008–09, 20 July 2009) is to be welcomed, it does not constitute a Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) policy, but simply reaffirms the position set out in "CC14—Investment of Charitable Funds: Detailed guidance" namely, recognising that 'the University may balance against its primary responsibility considerations of the ethical nature of investments'.
2. That Charities Law does impose certain constraints under 'fiduciary responsibility but that under current legislation more could be done regarding responsible investment than is done at present.
3. That many other Universities have full SRI policies in place, some of which have been in place for many years. Examples include: Oxford, St Andrews and Manchester in the UK, and Harvard, Stamford, UPenn, and Brown in the US.
4. That the UK financial sector has an extensive responsible investment sector with specialist managers able to provide a broad range of SRI options. There are also a growing number of UN sponsored initiatives which emphasise the importance of responsible finance, the most important of which being: the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI), launched 2005, and the UNEP FI Human Rights Guidance Tool for the Financial Sector, launched 2007.
5. That the university considers not only its choice of investments, but also its choice of fund managers and their remuneration arrangements, to be a commercial secret. (Council Executive Committee Minutes 30 March 2012)

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the University should have a SRI policy which reflects its mission and core values (Reporter 2001–02, p. 226.. These include: freedom of thought and expression, freedom from discrimination, and concern for environmental stability.
2. That key stake-holders must be consulted in the development of such a policy, including but not necessarily limited to students, academics, alumni and the University's investment team.
3. That ethical investment cannot be reduced to a simple rule such as excluding a certain class of companies, but is instead an ongoing process of using a combination of direct dialogue, voting at shareholder meetings, and if necessary divestment, to persuade companies to support an investor's social or ethical goals.
4. That transparency both in the choice of investments and in voting at shareholder meetings is a key part of any commitment to socially responsible investing.
5. That if the University chooses to delegate all or part of its investment responsibilities to external fund managers, it should publish sufficient information to allow members of the University to hold their performance, both ethical and financial, to account.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To continue campaigning for responsible investment within the University.
2. To make the University more aware of best practice with regard to responsible investment.
3. To continue regularly requesting the University for information regarding its investments and its arrangements with fund managers, and to publish this information on the CUSU website if it is not publically available elsewhere.
4. To continue supporting CUSU members who wish to encourage their colleges to invest responsibly.

DEMANDING PROPERLY FUNDED HIGHER EDUCATION

CUSU NOTES:

1. The current Government's HE funding policies and cuts;
2. Government pressure in favour of:
 - a. Moves towards 'fast-track' degree courses;
 - b. Focusing on employment-relevant skills rather than academia for its own sake;
4. That cuts are also likely to continue, across the sector, resulting in:
 - a. Course and department closures;
 - b. Reductions in staff and resources per student and thus a decline in quality of teaching;
 - c. An even stronger impetus towards fee rises, notwithstanding the effects of core-and-margin policy;
5. That CUSU currently has policy against both tuition fees and rises in fees.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That cutting funding to HE, especially in a time of recession, is foolish short-termism, since:
 - a. Education is a strong foundation for long-term economic and social improvement;
 - b. It will result in a large number of unemployed former university staff and would-be students, and protracted unemployment not only is costly and damaging in the present but frequently results in long-term problems for the individuals affected and for society;
 - c. It will cause general economic damage, in particular to many HE institutions themselves;
3. That compressed degrees are attractive to some students, but for the following reasons and others must not reduce the availability of standard (three/four-year) and academically-oriented courses for those students who wish to take them:
 - a. Academics in research-intensive institutions rely on vacations to do research, so any encroachment of teaching into the summer in particular will either damage their research or result in pressures to shift teaching loads to non-research posts, which both undermine research-led teaching;
 - b. There will be fewer opportunities to engage with extracurricular activities, which (quite apart from their personal and community value) are just as vital to the development of many students' skills and abilities;
4. That learning and knowledge are not just tools to get a job, but are fundamentally and intrinsically worthwhile to the individual and to society, and that losing sight of this and turning universities into institutions that focus solely on skills sought by employers would be an immense betrayal of students, staff and society;
5. That the harmful effects of a high and variable fee market include its tendency to:
 - a. Push students without significant personal wealth away from elite universities or even away from HE altogether;
 - b. Force students into compressed courses and other poor quality but less expensive 'choices';
 - c. Undermine the financial viability of offering student loans at below-market rates;
4. That shortfalls in funding should not be made up for by damaging educational quality, closing departments and courses, or squeezing students with fees, but by fair progressive taxation;
5. That concentrating resources in 'elite' institutions and leaving the rest to founder is not an acceptable solution either;
6. That the present attacks on the nature of HE are both represented and encouraged by its inclusion as of June 2009 in what is basically a business department, and that this ridiculous and offensive state of affairs ought to be rectified with the return of HE to a governmental department whose primary responsibility is education and/or research (but not under Michael Gove);

7. That access to education should be considered neither a privilege nor solely an economic investment, but a right.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To adopt the principles expressed in “Believes” as policy and continue to condemn the current brutal cuts to HE funding and marketisation of the HE system.

EXPLOITING ASPIRATIONS

CUSU NOTES:

1. The recent growth in the number of organisations charging prospective applicants for advice, help with their application and interview preparation.
2. These organisations often employ current students.
3. These organisations have contacted common room Access Officers and, Communication Officers, and Presidents as well as individual students in order to advertise jobs and promote themselves.
4. These organisations have no official link with or endorsement from the university and no special knowledge of, or insight into the admissions process.
5. The Cambridge Admissions Office (CAO) and CUSU offer information, advice and guidance to any prospective applicant individually as well as at open days and other admissions events entirely free of charge.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the university’s admissions policy is fair and transparent.
2. These organisations perpetuate negative stereotypes about the admissions process.
3. These organisation undermine the work of individual access teams across the University
4. They are making profits by exploiting the fears of prospective students, either indirectly through advertising or directly through charging prospective students for their services, and as such are contributing to the marketisation effect within higher education, more generally, within the country .
5. Negative stereotypes, perpetuated by these organisations, deter people from applying to Cambridge.
6. The suggestion that there are back doors into Cambridge is both untrue and harmful to access.
7. The value of individual students’ opinions on course structure and the admissions process are best exercised within the existing structure of college and university open days, and a variety of disseminated materials including alternative prospectuses.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To reject requests to work with these organizations
2. And to write to them and explain why,
3. And in doing so request a caveat on the individual pages of their websites that ‘This website has no association with the University of Cambridge, its colleges, its affiliated institutions, its faculties, its departments, its students, its lecturers, its staff, CUSU, the Cambridge Admissions Office or the GU’
4. To investigate schemes and initiatives to provide more support for applicants when preparing for interview.
5. To mandate the CUSU Access and Funding team to seek stronger condemnation of these groups from the University.
6. To encourage JCRs/MCRs and students not to participate in schemes run by these organisations.

SOCIAL CARE AND EDUCATION FOR DISABLED STUDENTS

CUSU NOTES:

1. In the last year the government has cut £900m from disability benefits and social care.
2. This has had a considerable impact on the lives of disabled people including disabled students.
3. CUSU's commitment both to disability rights and to making the University of Cambridge as accessible as possible.
4. That many people will require social care to be able to attend University.
5. That Cambridgeshire County Council already only provides social care for cases where the need is deemed to be 'substantial' or 'critical'.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That if disabled people are to be able to attend University, social care needs to be prioritised.
2. That social care funding is inadequate, or only just adequate, as it is, and any cuts will have potentially disastrous effects for the lives, freedoms and ability to pursue education of disabled people, in Cambridge and elsewhere.
3. That due to the profound importance of social care for the rights of disabled people, including the right to education; its maintenance should be prioritised.
4. That our commitment to disability rights and making the University of Cambridge as accessible as possible obliges us to draw attention to the impact of cuts for access, and to do our very best to campaign against future cuts and work to alleviate current cuts.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Welfare Officer and the CUSU Access Officer, in consultation with the Disabled Students' Campaign, to:
2. Write a letter to Julian Huppert and Cambridgeshire County Council re-emphasising the crucial role that social care plays in enabling disabled people to access University, and urging them to oppose future cuts to social care.
3. Issue a press release, highlighting both our and the University's commitment to access for disabled people, and drawing attention to the crucial role played by social care provision in facilitating the right to education for disabled people.
4. To mandate the CUSU Welfare Team to work with the CUSU Disabled Students' Campaign to raise awareness of the relationship between social care provisions and the right to education.
5. To mandate the CUSU Executive to work with the University to ensure that no student of the University of Cambridge, whether prospective or current, is deterred from studying or continuing to study here by lack of adequate social care.
6. To mandate the CUSU Executive to work with the NUS and the National Campaign against Fees and Cuts to seek to ensure that disability rights remain a priority for the student movement.
7. To mandate the CUSU executive to lobby Cambridgeshire County Council and local government to prioritise social care over expenditure of less fundamental importance in other areas and pressure the University administration to do the same.

ETHICAL BANKING FOR CUSU

CUSU NOTES:

1. Standing Orders G.8 (vi) (b) "The Socially Responsible Investment Officer [...] shall lead CUSU campaigns and activities involving the ethical investment of CUSU [...] funds.";
2. The string of scandals over the past year, ranging from submitting false interest rates to the LIBOR panel to money laundering for violent criminal gangs and terrorists, which between them have left no major bank untouched;
3. That the NUS has recently endorsed the Move Your Money campaign, which promotes switching bank accounts to ethical providers.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That depositing money in a bank account constitutes an investment, and that such investment should not be exempt from CUSU's ethical principles;
2. That CUSU's handling of its own finances should follow the highest ethical standards so as to set a positive example to the University and its colleges, JCRs, MCRs, clubs and societies, and to CUSU's members;
3. That, while operational issues mean that an immediate switch to a more ethical provider would come at an unacceptable cost, CUSU should have a long-term aim to minimise or where possible eliminate all relationships with any financial institutions deemed unethical by CUSU policy.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the SRI Officer, the Coordinator and the Financial Administrator to formulate a policy regarding the selection of bank accounts and other investments on ethical principles, and to present this policy for approval by Council no later than Lent IV 2013;
2. Subject to the approval of the ethical policy mentioned in Resolves 1, to mandate the Coordinator and Financial Administrator to follow the ethical policy whenever they choose a provider for a new account and, wherever reasonably practicable, to minimise CUSU's use of existing accounts with institutions deemed not to comply with the policy.

ACADEMIC WORK SET DURING FRESHERS' WEEK

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the University has set no defined period as 'Freshers' Week'.
2. That the period addressed by this motion as 'Freshers' Week' covers the students' arrival at Cambridge to the commencement of lectures.
3. That some supervisors set work, for first year students, with deadlines during or immediately after Freshers' Week.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That Freshers' Week is a stressful period for first year students.
2. That, during Freshers' Week, first years should be concentrating on settling into college life and socialising with other members of college.
3. That academic work is both time consuming and stressful and is an unwelcome addition to the Freshers' Week experience.
4. That the setting of work intended for completion during Freshers' Week should, where possible, be avoided.

5. That work that is reasonable and necessary to a specific subject should be set to allow its completion before the students' arrival, allowing them equal access to the orientation and social events provided during Freshers' Week.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Education Officer to make this position clear to the University, Directors of Studies and general academic staff.
2. To encourage college JCRs and MCRs to apply pressure to Senior Tutors and Directors of Studies to ensure that first years are not pressured to work during Freshers' Week
3. To mandate the CUSU Education Officer to provide support to JCRs and MCRs in carrying out this duty and to assist in negotiations with academic staff if this is necessary.

SUPPORTING STUDENT CARERS

CUSU NOTES:

1. That many students act as carers during their time at University; either for a family member, or for a friend.
2. That on average 6.5 million people act in a caring capacity in the UK alone. Whilst there is no breakdown of this number to reflect how many of these are students in HE, it is logical to assume that it is a significant proportion.
3. That student carers received no financial support from the government if they are receiving student financial support already – this is in spite of the high costs associated with acting as a carer.
4. That a student carer can put themselves and their studies under considerable strain by virtue of supporting a loved one or friend. Carers UK suggests that the average carer works around 20 hours a week.
5. That students are not encouraged by the University to disclose if they are in a caring role in the same way that they might disclose a disability, and there there is no procedure for supporting this students.
6. That cuts to social care provision make it difficult for students from less well-off backgrounds to find professional carers for loved ones.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the lack of support for student carers is unacceptable.
2. That the absence of statistics relating to student carers is evidence of how under-represented they are as a group.
3. That carers often do not chose to be in the situation they are in, and that they should not be forced or encouraged to give up caring responsibilities if they cannot.
4. That student carers should not have to suffer academically or personally through acting as a carer.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Welfare & Rights Officer to:
 - a. Look into ways to support and campaign for the rights of student carers
 - b. To create a policy document, through consultation with student carers, calling on the University to provide appropriate support.
 - c. To call on the University to publicise the Access to Learning Fund as a potential source of money for student carers.

- d. To publicise services that support carers to students.
2. To raise awareness about the issue of student carers, through leaflets, posters, and the student press.
3. To lobby the Council and Julian Huppert to campaign, locally and nationally, respectively, for better provisions for student parents.
4. To work with the NUS Womens Campaign, and the NCAFC, to ensure that the student movement is campaigning for support for student carers.

CUSU LOVES: QUALITY ASSURANCE

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) are conducting an 'Institutional Review' of Cambridge this academic year;
2. That the QAA will make a binary judgement upon 'academic standards' - whether or not the basic level required to get a Cambridge degree meets national minimum standards;
3. That the QAA will make a gradated judgement upon:
 - (a) the quality of 'learning opportunities' - the teaching, academic support, pastoral support, learning resources and staff training in Cambridge;
 - (b) 'enhancement' procedures - the presence and effectiveness of deliberate steps to improve the quality of learning opportunities in Cambridge;
 - (c) 'public information' - the completeness, reliability and usefulness of information published for students, prospective applicants and others;
4. That the QAA will offer a commentary, but not a judgement, upon 'student involvement in quality assurance and enhancement';
5. That the QAA will issue recommendations to the University.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That quality assurance is exciting;
2. That Cambridge's academic standards probably meet national minimum standards;
3. That
 1. (a) the general quality of learning opportunities in Cambridge is high, and that problems are less with their average level than with their consistency; though
 2. (b) the University lacks the procedures by which it might adequately assure itself of the quality of much of its provision, especially that provision made through the Colleges;
 3. (c) induction arrangements are focussed upon students of traditional course structures following a conventional academic year, to the exclusion of and detriment to the minority of students who do not fit into this category;
 4. (d) complaints and appeals procedures are often archaic and lack the most basic time limits within which students can expect to learn of a conclusion; and
 5. (e) student membership of significant committees is inadequate, and the unlimited formal power for the chair of any meeting to declare any item of business to be reserved (secret from students) at his/her discretion is unacceptable;
4. That

1. (a)the decentralised autonomy by which Cambridge works is positive in very many respects; but
 2. (b)Cambridge's devolved autonomy undermines central attempts to ensure the application of good practice, especially concerning teaching and assessment; and
 3. (c)Colleges can unduly limit students' abilities to participate in valuable activities to enhance their education beyond their course as part of an inappropriately narrow focus upon academic performance, and the University lacks the ability to prevent this;
5. That
1. (a)the public information published by the University that is of most relevance to prospective applicants is excellent; but
 2. (b)a wide range of information concerning procedures, rules and costs that apply to students differently across the Colleges are not satisfactorily clear;
 3. (c) the accessibility and clarity of information published for current students concerning complaints and appeals procedures is unsatisfactory; and
 4. (d)the procedure of the University's annual planning round (by which core funding can be applied for) - and of student access to it in particular - limits the opportunity for enhancement proposals that have come from the student body to be appropriately considered (on their merits, against other proposals for spending, on a level playing-field);
6. That student involvement in quality assurance and enhancement is severely limited by the absence of resourcing by the University for training, coordination and support of student representatives;
7. That it would be helpful for the QAA to issue recommendations to the University that would address the issues above.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To mandate the CUSU Education Team, working with the QAA volunteer group, to render these beliefs effectively in CUSU's 'Student Written Submission' (SWS);
2. To present more detailed articulation of the elements above to 'points of discussion' at CUSU's Michaelmas Open Meeting, and to use this to fine-tune the SWS in line with the beliefs above;
3. To reject the option to make a confidential submission of the SWS to the QAA, and instead to make it publicly available.

ANTI-ENGLISH DEFENCE LEAGUE DEMONSTRATION IN CAMBRIDGE

CUSU NOTES:

1. The English Defense league (EDL) is planning a demonstration in Cambridge on February 23, 2013
2. In July 2011, the EDL marched through Cambridge to protest a proposed mosque. Two Muslim men were attacked by EDL supporters in the Cambridge City center despite the police presence
3. Many Cambridge University students, especially women, were afraid of venturing out and indeed the police were noted to escort some across Parker's Piece, citing safety concerns

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The EDL is an organisation espousing xenophobic and racist ideology
2. No-one should bear harassment on grounds of colour, creed or race
3. Students should be able to pursue their studies and daily activities without fear of harassment or racial targeting

4. The community and University of Cambridge are one in standing together against any who would divide us
5. The need is eternal for good people to stand up early against any attempt to fan hatred and division

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. The CUSU President should post a statement on the CUSU website condemning the EDL march planned to take place in Cambridge, on behalf of CUSU
2. CUSU should support the counter-march taking place on the same day
3. The CUSU Welfare Officer should liaise with the police and relevant authorities to keep students well-informed and safe.

INDUCTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEW STUDENTS

CUSU NOTES:

1. That induction arrangements for new students tend to assume that new students arrive at the start of the academic year;
2. That some students do not begin their courses at the start of the academic year.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That Cambridge can be complicated to navigate;
2. That to be able to get the most out of a course of study in Cambridge it is important that new students are enabled to navigate the various sources of support, resources and procedures that exist here;
3. That students should not be disadvantaged as a result of beginning their courses at points other than the start of the academic year.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To make the improvement of induction arrangements for new students an explicit CUSU policy.

TEACHING AND PASTORAL TRAINING FOR ACADEMIC STAFF

CUSU NOTES:

1. The limited training and development opportunities available for teaching staff;
2. The lack of adequate training for Tutors in issues, skills or knowledge of the sources of support available to their students;
3. The lack of requirement for teaching qualifications in the recruitment of teaching staff.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. The University recruits some of the best academic staff in the world;
2. Some of them are better at some things than others;
3. The University does not provide sufficient opportunities to ensure that all academics are at the same high level in all of the areas of their responsibilities.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To explicitly reaffirm CUSU's support for the creation and improvement of training and development opportunities for academic staff.

MORE YEAR ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the University is required to renew its Erasmus arrangements;
2. That undergraduates outside of Languages, Law and Engineering currently have very limited opportunities to spend an academic year abroad;
3. That taught graduate students currently have very limited opportunities to spend periods of study abroad;
4. That many other UK universities offer more opportunities for 'international mobility' for their students than exist in Cambridge;
5. That international mobility is an even bigger part of the educational culture in many of the best universities outside the UK.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the option of an educationally productive year abroad should exist for more undergraduates;
2. That it would be valuable for CUSU and the University's Access work for there to be the option of spending a year abroad as part of more undergraduate courses;
3. That fitting components of study abroad into the structure of taught graduate courses in Cambridge would be more complicated but should happen more often where it would be educationally valuable.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To continue to campaign to protect current international mobility opportunities and for the expansion of such opportunities to more students;
2. To seek to use the specific opportunity of Erasmus renewal to increase the proportion of students able to spend years abroad;
3. To conduct further work into the detail of potential improvements in international mobility opportunities for graduate students.

CUSU EXECUTIVE SO UPDATES

CUSU NOTES:

1. The CUSU Executive Teams (of part-time students, headed by sabbatical officers) are a crucial part of the organisation, leading CUSU's policy work and activities.
2. The Standing Orders section on the Executive is out of date. Some posts are not in the right Teams, and election arrangements have changed.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That having an up-to-date Executive section of the Standing Orders will make how the CUSU Executive works clearer to students.
2. This will allow current officers to make the most of their roles and provide accurate information for those thinking of running for a role in the future.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To make the relevant changes to the CUSU Standing Orders laid out in the Appendix A.

COUNCIL REFORM

CUSU NOTES:

1. There has been a general perception over the past couple of years that CUSU Council does not work as efficiently or effectively as it could do.
2. Last year a survey and consultation with the Democracy and Development Team took place on how to improve CUSU Council.
3. The Democracy and Development Team have used last year's findings, consultation with various student groups (and some new ideas) to create a proposal for Council Reform.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the Democracy and Development Team's recommendations address the problems which have been experienced at Council meetings.
2. That Council meetings will become more efficient and accessible when the changes have been implemented, encouraging increased and focused participation.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To approve the list of recommendations from the CUSU Democracy and Development Team in Appendix B.
2. To make the relevant changes to the CUSU Standing Orders laid out in Appendix C.
3. To mandate the Democracy and Development Team to consider following the logic of these changes with Open Meetings too.

AMENDMENT TO NUS CONFERENCE MOTION 301

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To propose an amendment to NUS Conference Motion 301, by:
 - a. Amending Resolves paragraph 1, and
 - b. inserting Resolves paragraph 4, as follows:

Conference Resolves:

1. *Support students' unions to articulate the public value of themselves and their institutions both locally and together on a national level, providing resources and suggestions on how students' unions can achieve this, and identify and campaign on ways of extending public value and in particular holding MPs and local authorities to account on realising this. Campaign for access agreements to take a life cycle approach and include retention and success targets.*
2. *Campaign for access agreements to take a life cycle approach and include retention and success targets.*
3. *Campaign for integrated access agreements and widening participation strategies that create meaningful, regional strategies for participation, including progress agreements between HE and FE and community-based targets and robust student engagement.*
4. *To research the hurdles faced by students moving to another part of the UK to study, and campaign to reduce these obstacles, to promote student mobility between the Nations.*
5. *Work with students' unions to help them campaign on the inclusion of meaningful evidence-based targets in access agreements, that take into account the full diversity of students' needs and experiences. This should include specific targets for mature, disabled, and BME students' access and success.*
6. *To work with students' unions to develop collaborative work on widening participation programmes.*
7. *To initiate a programme of research on the UK research environment in light on the forthcoming REF, with particular attention to the position of postgraduate research students within it.*
8. *To conduct research on how impact frameworks such as the REF are affecting higher education, particularly for postgraduate research students.*
9. *To support students' unions to champion and defend community-facing and continuing education courses.*
10. *To campaign for more widespread recognition of alternative sets of qualifications for higher education access.*
11. *To campaign with students' unions to improve the way institutions work in partnership with their communities and serve the needs of those communities, for example public access to library resource, public lectures and community projects.*

REMOVAL OF ELECTORAL LABELS

CUSU NOTES:

1. That candidates running in the CUSU cross campus elections can submit an electoral label of no more than 30 characters under C.3 of the Standing Orders
2. That candidates cannot share language in their electoral labels

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That electoral labels were of use when candidates were able to run on slates and could share electoral label language
2. That electoral labels have little value on their own as a candidate's manifesto cannot be summarised in 30 characters
3. That electoral labels may be used as an excuse not to read candidates' manifestos

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To remove section C.3 from the Standing Orders and therefore remove the requirement for electoral labels.

CUSU EXECUTIVE STANDING ORDERS UPDATES

CUSU NOTES:

1. The CUSU Executive Teams (of part-time students, headed by sabbatical officers) are a crucial part of the organisation, leading CUSU's policy work and activities.
2. The Standing Orders section on the Executive is out of date. Some posts are not in the right Teams, and election arrangements have changed.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That having an up-to-date Executive section of the Standing Orders will make how the CUSU Executive works clearer to students.
2. This will allow current officers to make the most of their roles and provide accurate information for those thinking of running for a role in the future.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To make the relevant changes to the CUSU Standing Orders laid out in the Appendix A.

COUNCIL REFORM

CUSU NOTES:

1. There has been a general perception over the past couple of years that CUSU Council does not work as efficiently or effectively as it could do.
2. Last year a survey and consultation with the Democracy and Development Team took place on how to improve CUSU Council.
3. The Democracy and Development Team have used last year's findings, consultation with various student groups (and some new ideas) to create a proposal for Council Reform.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the Democracy and Development Team's recommendations address the problems which have been experienced at Council meetings.

2. That Council meetings will become more efficient and accessible when the changes have been implemented, encouraging increased and focused participation.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To approve the list of recommendations from the CUSU Democracy and Development Team in Appendix B.
2. To make the relevant changes to the CUSU Standing Orders laid out in Appendix C.
3. To mandate the Democracy and Development Team to consider following the logic of these changes with Open Meetings too.

ICUSU CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

CUSU NOTES:

1. That the academic welfare of international students, such as studying English as second language, is already given excellent attention at the faculty and University levels, and that the English language programme run by previous iCUSU's Academic officers lacked participatory interest, and provided only very low level impact. Furthermore, the 2012-2013 Committee has initiated the 'Ambassadors' access campaign to fulfil iCUSU's mandate to inspire and encourage internationals globally to study in Cambridge.
2. That currently the candidates for the General committee (4/5 posts) are invited to compete for posts alongside Executive posts on the same day, but the Executive position elections can be very competitive, necessarily implying that many competent candidates may not make it into the incoming Committee. It is currently unclear on how the number of the General committee members is determined.
3. That currently the iCUSU constitution states that Electronic voting shall only be employed in addition to rather than in place of voting in person, but that electronic voting has been the practice of iCUSU elections in the past few years.
4. That currently the iCUSU constitution states that photographs of the candidate, or details about any particular supporter or proposer of a candidate are not allowed on any publicity or the manifesto, but the Returning Officers of the past few years have explicitly allowed photographs of the candidates to be used. Current online publicity methods especially those involving social networking sites like Facebook will almost inevitably involve photographs of the candidates, and most other student societies (including CUSU) have allowed photos of the candidate on publicity and manifesto.

CUSU BELIEVES:

1. That the objectives of the role of Academic Officer do not require a full executive position dedicated to it, and the role of Academic Officer can readily be subsumed within that of the Welfare Officer. Furthermore, due to the growing scope and complexity of the 'Ambassadors' access initiative, it would be more beneficial to have an executive position dedicated to its aims.
2. That it is a great loss to iCUSU that many competent candidates who lose in the Executive elections are completely omitted from the iCUSU committee, and that the incoming Chair and his/her Executive should be able to decide whether to have 4 or 5 General Committee members.
3. That there is no reason for necessarily having the elections in person, as that would actually reduce the number of turnouts.
4. That there are no compelling reasons for placing a blanket prohibition of candidate's photos on publicity and manifesto material, and that allowing photos of the candidate on publicity and

manifesto material can be potentially beneficial, such as by allowing candidates to differentiate themselves by more visually impressive campaign material.

CUSU RESOLVES:

1. To ratify the appended iCUSU motion for the Executive position reform, which removes the position of the Academic Officer from the executive, subsuming the role of this position within the portfolio of the Welfare Officer, and which creates a new Executive position of Access Officer to maintain 10 executive positions on the Committee under the following job description, which would be added to the Constitution:
 2. The Access Coordinator coordinates all initiatives directed at inspiring and informing prospective international students about studying in Cambridge University. This includes efforts such as the 'Ambassadors' global access campaign, where current Cambridge students are encouraged, equipped and formally supported by iCUSU to start access initiatives in their home countries.
3. To ratify the appended iCUSU motion for the election reform, which would hold the General Committee elections after the results for the Executive elections have been announced, and allow the candidates for the Executive elections who fail to win an Executive position to participate in the General Committee elections. The precise number of General committee members shall be determined by the Chair-elect for the incoming year, before the General committee elections.
4. To ratify the appended iCUSU motion for the Electoral rule reform, which allows electronic voting to be used in place of voting in person.
5. To ratify the appended iCUSU motion for the reform of the rule on publicity material which allows photos to be used in publicity and manifestos during election campaigns.