

1932 Tackling the Care Crisis

Proposer: Juliet Donaghy (1st Year HSC)

Seconder: Kate Snape (Physical disabilities and Mobility issues, Disability Caucus)

Note: the resolution has been slightly amended by the proposer since the 21 April meeting.

Union notes:

1. We are living in a time of austerity and welfare cuts
2. For many disabled people, studying at UEA is dependent on care services
3. Changes to DSA mean that in future years there will be no funding available for:
 - A) Accommodation costs for students with disabilities
 - B) Non-medical helpers such as practical support assistants, library assistants, notetakers and study assistants
 - C) Mentors and counsellors without BIS-recognised qualifications
 - D) and that equipment and laptops funded by DSA must be individually justified by assessors and will now incur a £200 charge for students

Union believes:

1. Disabled people who need care services should have the same opportunity to study at University as students who do not require care services
2. Disabled students enrich UEA
3. If students do not have access to the care required to maintain study at UEA, and the government will not help, we must find a way to provide this
4. The University will have to provide the appropriate support that students need under their equalities responsibilities

Union Resolves:

1. To lobby the University to make up the shortfall in care funding for disabled students, particularly with regard to changes in DSA, ensuring that disabled students have the same opportunity to study at UEA enjoyed by able students.