

1925 Defend SUs

Proposer: Connor Rand (Undergraduate Education Officer)

Seconder: Daniel Wrigglesworth (UEA Labour Students)

Union Believes:

1. Students are at their most powerful when they organise collectively.
2. Students' unionism, the collective action of students, is a long and proud tradition at UEA and across the UK.
3. Students' unions are the collective action of students in colleges, universities and all other providers of further and higher education.
4. Students' unions work to make education better and more accessible, secure students more power, distribute it more equally and ensure every individual student is just as powerful as their institution.
5. Students' unions are the grassroots who offer students independent advice, world-class facilities and unrivalled opportunities to expand their knowledge and political awareness.
6. We defend students' interests and work to ensure that students are safe, supported and are not exploited and are the best progressive force students have in forging a better society.
7. Students unions are under attack by the Government which wants to impose draconian "trade union" style reform on us.
8. Students' Unions are currently subject to extensive regulations under the 1994 Education Act.
9. Students' Unions are currently required by law to be registered as charities, which is frequently used as an attempt to limit their ability to collectively campaign on political issues.
10. Students Unions should be able to autonomously decide what issues to campaign on free from external regulation either from legislation and government, or from the Charity Commission.
11. UEA Students' Union is not funded properly to do its job by the University.

Union resolves:

1. Launch a programme of work to improve our net funding at UEASU.
2. Continue to defend students' unions against any moves to restrict their autonomy or right to organise, campaign or represent students, together with NUS, other students' unions and trade unions.
3. Call for a mandatory right to individual and collective student advocacy for all students in the UK.
4. To work with external allies to campaign for the repeal of the 1994 Education Act. To work with external allies to campaign for the repeal of legislation that inhibits SUs, as Charities, to campaign on issues they care about, including the relevant parts of the Education Act and Charities Act