



**Motion Booklet
Emergency General Meeting (EGM)
9th March 2017**

Motions Guide



What is a motion?

You may have a fantastic idea about improving the way Union of Kingston Students works, or perhaps there is something that really irritates you. If you want to bring about change in your Union, you can write a motion and propose it to be adopted as policy.

In this booklet are all the motions that were submitted for AGM on the 18th January which were unheard as well as any new motion submitted to be debated and voted on

What do the different sections of a motion mean?

Motions are broken down into three sections;

AGM/EGM Notes: This is what the author believes to be fact, eg “Most students owe money in the form of student loans”

AGM/EGM Believes: This is much more opinion-based, and if passed, will become the policy of Union of Kingston Students. eg “Student debt is not a good thing”

AGM/EGM Resolves: This is the main thrust of the motion and gives the practical mandate to Union of Kingston Students, eg “For Union of Kingston Students to campaign against student debt”

How are motions debated?

Each motion will have a proposer(s) and seconder(s) - these are students who wrote the motion. They will be asked to give a 2 minute speech to explain why you should vote for this motion.

The chair will then ask if anyone wishes to give a 2 minute speech against the motion. If you do, please raise your hand.

The chair will then allow 2 questions to be put to the proposer or seconder. They will have a minute to respond to each question.

At the end of the debate, the Chair will ask the proposer to come and give a 1 minute speech to summarize why the motion should be passed. Following this, you will be asked to vote.

What is procedural motion?

Say you want another round of speeches, amend a section of a motion before it is voted on – you can submit a procedural motion. The forms are at the end of this booklet



To do this, come to the front and speak to the Chair's assistant or speak to one of the Union staff.

Procedural motions are voted on without a debate but the proposer may have a minute to speak in favour of the motion.

How do I vote?

If you want to vote for (e.g if you want the motion to be accepted) – raise your green thumb!

If you want to against (e.g you don't want the motion)– raise your red thumb!

If you abstain (neither vote for or against) – raise your hand

The motion will accepted if more than half of those present votes for it.

So we voted, what happens next?

Any motion that approved* becomes Union Policy for the next three years. This means that what is in the resolves part of the motion, the Union is mandated to do, campaign on or take a stance on.

*This is subject to the Union's Trustee Board – this board check that we are not passing things that contravene the aims and objectives of the Union, breaking the law or going to cause the Union financial problems.

How was the order of the motions decided?

The first 4 motions were unheard at the AGM on the 18th January. The other motions came in after the AGM and before the EGM and their order was decided at random.

There are a lot of motions, what happens if we run out of time?

They will be referred to the Union's Trustee Board for approval

I have more questions – who can I speak to?

Before and after the EGM, drop an email to studentsunion@kingston.ac.uk or pop into the office to speak to the Student Officers or a member of staff.

At the EGM, speak to one of the Union staff, the Chair's Assistant or drop us a tweet at @union_kingston

Motion 1: Kingston University Student Rip-off

Motion Proposer(s): Gideon Sassoon (K1009705)

Motion Seconder: AQ Khan (K1460789)

Union AGM Notes

1. The previous VC Julius Weinberg has resigned (previous salary: £214,000)
2. He has not left the university and instead was given a position of “president” (Currently salary: £251,461) (obtained by FOI)
3. This role has never existed before.
4. This role was never widely advertised, bordering on the suggestion that it was specifically created for Julius Weinberg
5. As an added not for context new VC is earing (£190,000)

Union AGM Believes

1. This borders on inappropriate use of public and student finances.
2. Julius was partially responsible for the significant drop of Kingston University in the league tables, which we believe should have resulted in dismissal rather than promotion for the damage caused.

Union AGM Resolves

1. Union makes a statement that it condemns the decision of the board in the creation of this role and paying Julius when it could have been spent on hiring more teaching staff.
2. The union to investigate the relevant area of law to determine if this practice was unlawful and accordance’s with the practice of a public institution and publish the subsequently generated report on the Union website.
3. The University Affairs Officer campaigns at the board of Governors to put in place measure to ensure that this practice does not continue in the future.
4. The University Affairs Officer expresses to the board the student reaction (in the form of discontent/dissatisfaction) on this issue and explores options to reprimanding the decision of giving the new role to the ex-vice chancellor (Julius Weinberg).
5. The Board of Governors to consult University staff and management if there are extraordinary situations where the creation of a new role is considered. It should be widely advertised to the students.

Motion 2: Improving the laptop loan scheme

Motion Proposer: Summer Ahmed (K1429918)

Motion Seconder: Nishath Choudhury (K1400190) Ramla Mohamed (K1408653)

Union AGM Notes

1. The fine on the borrowed laptops is £5 per half hour delay.

Union AGM Believes

1. Although the late fine system works to ensure items are returned, these fines can accumulate quickly if not returned promptly (i.e £10 per hour)
2. This cost is unacceptable and unaffordable
3. New methods need to be developed to ensure students are not unfairly punished

Union AGM Resolves

1. For the Union to work with Library and Learning Services to develop a text reminder system to remind borrowers 10 minutes before they are due to be returned
2. For the system to include the ability to extend the borrowing via text to avoid any avoidable fees
3. For the Union to campaign that the late fees to be reduced from £5 per half hour

Motion 3: Consent workshops

Motion Proposer: Holly Duffield (K1405234)

Motion Seconder: Elizabeth Johnston (K1426717)

Union AGM Notes

1. Kingston rape cases went up from 460 in 2015 to 526 in November 2016.
2. 1 in 3 female students are a victim of sexual assault on campus in the UK.
3. Almost half (43 per cent) of the women who had experienced sexual assault or abuse at university, did not report their ordeal.
4. It is not mandatory at Kingston University to be taught about the topic of consent.

Union AGM Believes

1. It should be part of the induction process at the beginning of the year.
2. It should not be an option.
3. A motion like this could inspire students to further the skills that their degree provides.
4. It may well prevent future rape and assault at Kingston University.

Union AGM Resolves

1. The Union should host a series of informative workshops regarding the issues of Consent and Sexual Assault included in the beginning of each semester and around Union events that involve alcohol and large numbers of students as well as other various times of the academic year.
2. The Union should hold a support group or safe space for survivors.
3. The Union must lobby the University to include workshops on Consent, Sexual Assault, and Domestic Violence during welcome week and throughout the year.
4. The Union must make a video and poster campaign with artistically inclined students by the end of 2017.

Motion 4: Banning plastic water bottles from all Kingston University campuses

Motion Proposer(s): Marialsabella Grech (K1645248)

Motion Secunder: Ilaria Casagranda (K1649847), Astrid Goettsch (K1648605), Liselotte Joki (K1545677)

Union AGM Notes

1. It is estimated that an average of 35.8 million plastic bottles are used every day in the UK, but only 19.8 million are recycled each day and it takes 500 years for plastic to decompose.
2. On average, Londoners buy 3.37 plastic bottles of water each week. This is more than anywhere else in England.
3. By 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in the sea. A recent study has shown that seafood eaters ingest up to 11.000 tiny pieces of plastic every year.
4. 50% of bottled water contains added minerals and salts; this does not mean that it is healthier.
5. Colleges and Universities have been known to consume more plastic bottles annually than most other organizations.
6. On the 21st of February 2017 the London Assembly Environment Committee began their *investigation* into the environmental impact of bottled water in the capital, which could result in a plastic bottle tax.
7. The #oneless campaign aims to make London the first plastic water bottles free capital by 2021.

Union AGM Believes

1. The amount of water fountains across Kingston University is low, they are not strategically located and not all are fit for filling flasks.
2. Access to water is a basic human right, as stated in United Nations General
3. Assembly Resolution 64/292 (2010).
4. It is our responsibility as a University to engage with environmental concerns.

Union AGM Resolves

1. Improving the existing tap water supply with alternative systems to facilitate a more effortless transition to plastic water bottle-free campuses by:
 - increasing the number of fountains, their design and location.
 - providing filtered-water stations with reusable flask dispensers.
2. Organising a student design competition for new water fountains and reusable KU water flasks.
3. Following universities such as Sheffield and Leeds, Kingston University will be able to reduce and finally ban plastic water bottles.

References:

<https://www.banthebottle.net/map-of-campaigns/>
http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/human_right_to_water.shtml
<https://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/plastic-bottles-0>
<https://www.london.gov.uk/press-releases/assembly/is-it-time-for-a-plastic-bottle-tax>
<http://nottingham.ac.uk/etc/news-water.php>
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<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/jan/19/more-plastic-than-fish-in-the-sea-by-2050-warns-ellen-macarthur>
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jul/09/selfridges-bans-plastic-water-bottles-in-oceans-conservation-initiative>
<https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/iquad/news/articles/2015/oct2015/hydrachillprovestobeahugesuccessforroyalhollowaysport..aspx>

Motion 5: Kingston University Staff Cuts and Course Closures

Motion Proposer: Joseph Cripps (K1413094)

Motion Seconder: Richard Donnelly (K1060937)

Union EGM Notes

1. On the 27th of January, the 2020 Phase 1 for FASS and SEC were received by academic staff.
2. Objections to 'Plan 2020' and alternative proposals have been submitted and passed unanimously by the UCU union (1st February 2017)
3. Under the recent Staff Survey:
 - ONLY 18% of staff believe that 'the Senior Management Team provide effective leadership' (-28 under the UK HE benchmark)
 - ONLY 16% of staff believed that 'when changes are made at the university they are usually for the better'
 - ONLY 20% of staff believe that 'the senior management team has a clear vision for the future of this organisation'

Union EGM Believes

1. Any failings of this university lie within the management structure and leadership as pointed to in the staff survey.
2. This union should continue its fight against attacks on higher education, and in doing so should object to 'vision 2020'
3. Take and support action to ensure the continued protection of courses and staff jobs

Union EGM Resolves

- 1) Develop a manifesto, in consultation with students, to formulate a list of demands that shall be delivered to all tiers of the management structure including Vice Chancellor, President and Board of Governors
- 2) The Union and all of its officers, in solidarity with staff and motions submitted and passed by UCU, should campaign against staff cuts and course closures.
- 3) Support all staff and student action if student or UCU demands are not met including any industrial action proposed by UCU.

Motion 6: Wednesday Afternoon's Free for all Kingston University Students

Motion Proposer: Haider Chaudhry (Kingston Hill Officer)

Motion Seconder: Ellen Baldwin (K1013933)

Union EGM Notes

1. There are 19,893 students at Kingston University and not all students in are given Wednesday afternoons free.
2. Currently there are about 5,174 Students involved in sports, societies and volunteering activities.
3. Providing Wednesday afternoons free to students will provide a mid-week break which can stimulate the improvement in mental health.
4. Sheffield Hallam's Research concluded how important extracurricular activities are: engagement in sport provides a good career return on investment of around £5k per annum, terms of current average salary, compared to those that did not engage in sport.

Union EGM Believes

1. Engagement in extracurricular activities provides a wide range of positive attributes wanted by employers notably: team working, communication skills, motivation, competitiveness, campaigning, event management, leadership, budgeting and resilience.
2. To give Wednesday afternoons free to students so that they can participate in sporting activities which the Union provide as well as related activities to increase the active number of students and to promote a healthy lifestyle during term time.
3. That it will benefit students to have Wednesday afternoons free so students can engage further into societies and volunteering opportunities provided by the union.
4. Having Wednesday afternoons free will further benefit students who are unable to participate in midweek extracurricular activities can meet with their personal tutors, revise and participate other academic opportunities

Union EGM Resolves

1. For the Student Union to campaign for all university students to have free Wednesday afternoons from 1pm.
2. The Wednesday afternoon campaign will strive to get timetabling to recognise Wednesday afternoons as a free timeframe for students and to develop improved timetables for commuter students to be involved in student union activities.

References http://c1593.r93.cf3.rackcdn.com/BUCS_Employability_Research_Report.pdf

Motion 7: Prohibit and institute a ban on the use of fur in any and all student's current and future projects.

Motion Proposer: Simon Plazolles-Hayes (K1500898)

Motion Seconder: Jessica Morfey (K1625797)

Union EGM Notes

1. There are no rules in place to prohibit the use of fur in student projects.
2. The companies tied to the fashion course have hard-lined stances against fur.
3. Fur farms are banned in the United Kingdom, along with nine other countries, and there are import and export bans in place in more.
4. Over 100 million animals are killed each year for fur, being killed in a variety of ways including: head bashing, anal and vaginal electrocution, gas chambers, and being skinned alive.

Union EGM Believes

1. Using fur contributes to the unnecessary suffering of animals, and instituting a ban will create a precedent that this industry and products are not accepted or acceptable.
2. Students will continue to receive an excellent education, and the lack of fur will not negatively affect their careers.

Union EGM Resolves

1. The Union of Kingston Students will take a stance and support the ban of fur on student's projects.

Motion 8: Elections Reforms.

Motion Proposer: Saniya Sajjan (K1201560)

Motion Secunder: Richard Donnelly (K1060937)

Union EGM Notes

1. Currently the candidates are campaigning and students are able to vote at the same time.
2. Candidates are able to have a campaigning team and go around to students and ask for a vote.
3. There are rules and regulations been set in place for the campaign which if not followed then there is no procedure to monitor this.
4. Candidates are allowed to use their laptops and iPads and ask for a vote.
5. All voting is done through the union of Kingston students website.

Union EGM Believes

1. There are a lot of problems faced by the students when some candidates are forcing people to vote.
2. There is a lot of issue between the candidates and students and students feel that they do not have enough time to look at the manifestos and vote while the candidate is standing next to them.
3. The students feel very pressured into voting if the candidate is asking them over and over again.

Union EGM Resolves

1. Candidates should only be allowed to campaign for a week out of the two with their teams in different locations of the universities.
2. Day 1 of the voting can be used for campaigning.
3. If a candidate is found campaigning in the week of voting, then the board of trustees should make an intensive guideline on the procedure of a candidate going against the rules.

Motion 9: Creation of a new Role Student Director

Motion Proposer(s): AQ Khan (K1460789), Saniya Sajjan (K1201560)

Motion Seconder: Daisy Du Toit (Penrhyn Road Officer)

Union AGM Notes

1. Student Union's commonly have a President and some VP's, however at Kingston we have 1 elected campus officer for each campus
2. Four full-time elected campus officers are split into 2 main parts; their role as the lead representative for their campus, and their role supporting wider work of the union.
3. Currently there is no student council to enhance the element of democracy of the Union of Kingston Students.

Union AGM Believes

1. Due to the lack of a president and the flat structure of the campus officers there is sufficient evidence of several issues with the structure of the officers & much conflict lies between officers.
2. There is no real responsibility apparent and officers are unaware of their responsibilities and/or not fulfilling them.
3. Decisions are being made and action is being taken without the knowledge or agreement of all the officers as well as students.
4. Progress and productivity of the officers is not being monitored.
5. Lack of transparency from the officers and their work to students.
6. Student Union is perceived as being 'Staff' dominated rather than a 'Student' Union being run by students.

Union AGM Resolves

1. To have a new x1 elected position of a part-time officer, namely Student Director, who will '**chair**' the full-time officers.

2. Role of Student Director:

- a) Sit on the Board of Trustees as an impartial member and chair the meetings.
- b) To chair the AGM and any EGM and to work on making sure officers are mandated to work on motions which have been passed at AGM's and to delegate passed motions to officers to be worked on and implemented.
- c) Hold full-time officers accountable, observe their progress, productivity and overseeing full-time officers whilst being involved in decision making and having the final say.
- d) To be the lead chair of any relevant Union of Kingston Students democratic and internal meetings.

- e) To be involved in deciding full-time officers' secondary remit. To ensure that full-time officers commit to and fulfil their secondary remit AND to ensure all full-time officers are taking a full part in wide decision making through the Union Meeting, trustee board and the AGM.
- f) The Union Development Officer must be responsible in leading this motion and all officers to be mandated on working to ensure the motion is implemented within the appropriate time frame.

3. Criteria for Student Director:

- a) Must be a current student at Kingston for the academic year applying for.
- b) ALL Students can apply for this role, regardless of the campus which they study at.

4. Time frame guidance for motion to be implemented if passed:

- Board of trustees – Thursday 16th March 2017
- Finalising the role and job description – Monday 3rd April 2017
- Advertising the role – Monday 10th April 2017
- Nominations open – Monday 17th April 2017
- Nominations close – Monday 1st May 2017
- Election brief/filming/ preparation/campaign starts – Week beginning 1st May
- Election week – Monday 8th May 2017 – Friday 12th May 2017
- Training – June
- Role commences – July

5. Other:

- a) Receiving essential summer training through the Union of Kingston Students and NUS.
 - b) Term of Office is same as the full-time elected officers and to work between 10 to 15 hours per week Monday to Friday (To be considered by the board of trustees; suggested pay rate is to be equivalent to that of the full-time officer's salary). Special circumstances to be considered for students that have work restrictions and are international etc.
6. The union CEO and relevant stakeholders (Board of Trustees) to make the necessary amendments to the constitution for the role to be effective and be part of the constitution.



Motion Amendment Form*

Name..... K-Number.....

Which Motion would you like to submit an amendment to? (Put the motion title in the box below)

I would like to edit the 'Notes' section FROM (insert original 'notes' section text in the box below including the number of the clause. e.g. 4. a) i., 6. c), All of 7.):

The Notes section can only contain factual information. It cannot contain any political views, assumptions or any predictions.

To change the 'notes' section TO (insert your amendment to the 'notes' section in the box below):

I would like to edit the 'Believes section FROM (insert original 'believes' section text in the box below including the number of the clause. e.g. 4. a) i., 6. c), All of 7.):

- The 'believes' section must contain only opinion, predictions, political beliefs, point of views etc.

To change the 'believes' section TO (insert your amendment to the 'believes' section in the box below):

I would like to edit the 'Resolves' section FROM (insert original 'resolves' section text in the box below including the number of the clause. e.g. 4. a) i., 6. c), All of 7.):

- The 'resolves' section must contain what you would like your motion to do. This is the main thrust of the motion and gives the practical mandate to the Union is directed to do

To change the 'resolves' section TO (insert your amendment to the 'resolves' section in the box below):

*Procedural motions are voted on without a debate but the proposer may have a minute to speak in favour of the motion.

Procedural Motion Form*

Name..... K-Number.....

Which Motion?

I would like an extra round of speeches

Take the motion straight to a vote

Change the order of the motions

I would like an extra round of questions

*Procedural motions are voted on without a debate but the proposer may have a minute to speak in favour of the motion.