

## Making the Union More Inclusive

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### **This Union Notes:**

1. Student Unions are meant to represent **all** students regardless of backgrounds or individual beliefs.
2. Student Unions represent the particular needs of the student membership within their institution.
3. UBU's Mission Statement within the constitution which states:

“UBU exists to support and represent its membership without discrimination; to maximise potential and provide a safe, understanding and co-operative environment for student activities, whilst recognising and celebrating the diversity of its membership”.

4. The increasing annual intake of local students into Universities.
5. Bradford is the Muslim capital of the United Kingdom.
6. The gradual increase of Muslim students on a yearly basis within Bradford University.
7. Many Muslims cannot step into a bar, as it is offensive to their faith.
8. The NUS Anti-Racism/Anti-Fascism Islamophobia campaign to ensure that Unions do not discriminate against Muslim students by having universal student democracy decision making meetings / councils / elections within a bar.
9. Last year UBU held all of its General Meetings, Sabbatical hustings, elections and count night in the Colours Bar.
10. There was a time when General Meetings, sabbatical elections, etc were held on the Basement Dancefloor.

### **This Union Believes:**

1. That addressing the needs of the diverse student population and making the Union as inclusive as possible is one of the main aims of UBU and is stated clearly within our constitution.
2. By having Universal Union decision-making structures within a venue which discriminates against a minority, we are not following our mission statement and not following the recommendations within our constitution.

### **This Union Resolves:**

1. To hold all Union meetings within a venue which is an acceptable venue for all students.
2. To ensure all universal democratic processes are inclusive.
3. To move election hustings, count night and General Meetings from the Colours Bar to an area which does no cause offence and is easily accessible to all its members.
4. To continually monitor the needs of its diverse membership to ensure that open, universal, democratic decision making processes are as inclusive as possible to the needs of its membership.
5. As it is very close to election time, provision for hustings and the count will be delayed until academic year 2001/2002.

**Proposed:** Shumon Rahman, UBU President

**Seconded:** Irfan Chohan, UBU Treasurer

**Passed Indicatively at GM:** 21/02/01

**Ratified at Council:** 01/03/01

**Expires:** 01/03/05