

An Environmentally and Ethically sound Union and University : Motion

This Union notes

1. The previous motions passed by Union Council regarding the Ethical and Environmental criteria placed upon the union's purchasing and procurement. (see 'Shopping Shouldn't Cost the Earth', 'A Motion For A Fairtrade Union and University', 'Nestle Boycott' and 'Ban Bacardi')
2. The Sound Impact Awards are a recognised and efficient method of assessment for our Union.

This Union believes

1. That global warming and environmental degradation is a reality which will affect the wellbeing of all people on the earth and the appropriate action to be taken involves education of students as well as action.
2. That we should have an active environmental and ethical policy which acts on such issues rather than housing a 'talking-shop' for ideas which do not come to fruition. This union still recognises the benefit of sharing all ideas in the process of coming to decisions and action planning.

This Union Resolves

1. To lobby to University on the issue of fair trading, requesting a greater proportion of fairly traded produce is available at University outlets (at 'Coffee with Principles in the Atrium, for example.).
2. To lobby the University on the issue of 'green energy', carbon consumption and energy conservation especially in shared spaces used by students. Part of this lobby will include setting an example within the Union.
3. To lobby the University on the issue of recycling. Although communication with the University has taken place it should now be formalised and followed up as such.
4. To work towards the gold standard in the Sound Impact awards and, once reached, maintain that level and continue to work towards greater sustainability and to higher ethical standards.
5. To ensure that positive steps taken by the union are maintained, strengthened and improved upon.
6. To educate students about the issues surrounding the choices they have in regard to environmental and ethical issues.

Proposed by

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Assentors Received

Fifteen Valid

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