

Current SU Policy Updates-Student Council 25/10/2021

Definition of Policy: An idea that student/s, submit to Student Council, which they believe will improve the student experience. Once passed by Student Council, policies are binding for three years so the Union must ensure they are progressed during that time, often by working with the University to effect a change somewhere. Grey background is complete **New updates are bold and in blue.**

Policy Number	Policy Title	Officer Responsible	Summary	Update (Updates since the last Student Council are in bold .)
2018-19_001	Peoples Vote	VP Education	Worcester Students' Union to align with NUS and to support the campaign for a 'People's Vote and a final say on Brexit'.	This was supported by the SU and students enabled to attend 3 PV marches in London. Brexit has now happened
2018-19_002	Shuttle bus between City Campus and St Johns Campus	President	We wish for the student council to lobby the university to provide a shuttlebus service between city campus and St Johns Campus in the evenings when lectures are scheduled.	No progress made. Night bus ran for Semester 1 of 2019/2020 but shelved by University due to cost. Discussions ongoing in next steps

2018-19_003:	PGR Network (18/10/2021)	President	This policy enables the University of Worcester Postgraduate Research (PGR) Network to affiliate to the Students' Union. It proposes that during the governance review period it runs as a pilot project subject to the bye-laws for societies with some exceptions	The Postgraduate Network is now set up within the new SU Governance Structure.
2018-19_004	Societies in Open Days	VP Student Activities	This policy seeks to rally the university to include community-based societies within the University Open Day programme. Community-based societies would include but not be limited to, the African and Caribbean Society, LGBTQ+ Society, Student Minds Society, and the Student Parent Network.	<p>This is now normally offered out to societies with variable engagement – difficult to mandate societies to take part in Open Days but they are encouraged to do so in 2019/2020 by gaining TeamWorc points.</p> <p>Societies (and sports clubs) are now invited to open days following a break due to covid but uptake is low.</p>

2018-19_005	LGBT and Officer Name	President	This renamed the LGBT Officer as the LGBTQ+ Officer.	Done and the new network is now LGBTQ+ Network.
2018-19_006	Single Use Plastic	President	<p>This policy signed up the Students' Union to the Plastic Free Worcester initiative and for the organisation to work towards plastic free status.</p>	<p>Ongoing - Discussions continue with E&F and Aramark on eradication, wherever possible, or single use plastic (other alternatives being investigated but some have an even higher carbon footprint than SUP). Water urns now provided in 53.3 as a result of lobbying.</p> <p>Hangar no longer uses plastic straws or SUP glasses - reusable plastic glasses purchased.</p> <p>Plastic cutlery in canteen?</p> <p>Plastic bags still being used in shop - to be addressed</p> <p>SU has a compost bin and Sustainability corner offering lots of advice</p> <p>Plans to lobby Uni for a 'recycling corner' on campus so it not disparate</p> <p>Worcester Uni halls won the Coca-Cola Recycling League competition</p> <p>We have now begun a review of single use plastic used within SU offices which is due to be completed by Christmas 2021.</p>

	Domestic Air Travel	President	This policy motion is to reduce domestic air travel within Great Britain for Student Union business e.g. conferences, if the journey is under 400 miles (one way).	Done and in place
2018-19_009				
2018-19_010	Standardisation of Blackboard	VP Education	This mandated the Vice President Education to work with the University in order to standardise Blackboard pages.	Ongoing - There is now a standard template upon the new creation of a Blackboard space (https://staffweb.worc.ac.uk/mediainteractive/Web/Pages/BaselineStandards/index.html). It has been discussed in University committees about the inclusive value of standardising Blackboard (in particular for general information e.g. Academic Integrity) however there is still an element of freedom at a Course level. Lecturers still vary how content is displayed for teaching reasons. The VP Education is continuing to focus on this and will ensure that academic reps and councillors will be involved in future consultations. The VP Education has continued work with the TEL team on this. Progress has been made

				with Blackboard Organisation course pages which the University are looking to make consistent.
2018-19_011	SU Against Fit to Sit	VP Education	<p>Worcester Students' Union to oppose any future attempts of the University of Worcester to implement a fit to sit policy. A fit to sit policy would change the mitigating circumstance procedure. For example if a student was ill and sat an exam they would not be able to claim mitigating circumstance because by turning up for the exam they had declared themselves well enough to take the exam.</p>	<p>Still SU Policy - VPE in 2018/19 managed to persuade the University to shelve the policy (following research into practice nationally) for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>Representations made at several committee meetings and concerns raised directly with Deputy Vice Chancellor. 2020/21 the Deputy Vice Chancellor and the Academic Registrar have confirmed this is not something they are pursuing at the current time.</p>
2018-19_012	Bunching of deadlines and Multiple Assessments	VP Education	This mandated the Vice President Education to work	As part of the Change Week 2019 follow up process this issue was raised with the University. The

			<p>with the University in order to remove multiple assignment deadlines falling on the same day.</p>	<p>University has, as a result, updated its guidance for course leaders who are now required to have oversight of assessment deadlines across their course. It should be noted that the University has made it clear that complete avoidance of bunching of deadlines is not possible. The issue was raised again by students in Change Week 2020. VPE has been working with Reps when issues have been raised.</p>
2019-20_001	UWIC Representation	President	<p>This policy would enable the Students' Union to have a UWIC Representative on Student Council during the consultation and transition period following the outcomes of the governance review</p>	<p>This was completed and a UWIC representative was in place up until the governance review implementation. UWIC now has a permanent representative on Student Council although this is currently vacant due to the later start of the UWIC academic year.</p> <p>There was no UWIC Student Council member in 2020-21. A representative has been elected for 2021-22.</p>

2019-20_002	Climate Emergency	President	Under this policy the SU declared a climate emergency and committed to working towards being carbon neutral by 2030	Policy has been assigned to the SUs Sustainability Committee to consider. Initial discussions took place on 12 th October 2020. President and Student Engagement Manager currently liaising with University Director of Sustainability on initial action plan to be completed by July 2022.
2019-20_003	Discounted Club Memberships for Placement Students	VP Student Activities	This policy provides students who undertake significant placement hours within their courses with a discounted sports club membership of 25% to make the offering more accessible to these students.	Complete and implemented for 2020-21.
2019-20_004	Fit to Study	VP Education	This mandate the VP Education to lobby for a Fitness to Study Policy. A Fitness to Study policy would protect the welfare of a student and the community they live in and allow others to	Ongoing-VP Education has discussed this policy in the University's Academic Regulations and Governance Committee and has also met the Academic Registrar. The University is now exploring the implementation of the policy and we will ensure Student Council is kept up to date. The VPE

			raise cause for concern. Clear processes and procedures would allow both staff and students to raise concerns	has been informed that the Director of Student Life is currently working on a draft of the policy. VPE has requested that the SU is involved in the drafting of this policy before approval which was supported by the Deputy Vice Chancellor. Once we have a draft of the policy we intend to bring it to the sub councils for comments.
2020-21_001	Membership of Sub Councils	President	This mandates the SU to change Bye Law 4 to change the voting membership of Education Council to include Academic Society Chairs and Welfare and Inclusion Council to include Faith and Cultural Society Chairs.	This is now complete. The Bye Laws and Terms of Reference are updated and voting rights for new members have been implemented.
2020-21_002	Gender Neutral Toilets	President	This mandates the Union to lobby the University for specific Gender Neutral Toilets on campus	Welfare and Inclusion Council discussed the implementation of the policy on 11/10/21 and a working group has been formed to focus on this and the Gender Neutral Pronouns Policy.

2020-21_003	Gender Neutral Pronouns	President	This mandates the Union to lobby the University to embed the use of pronouns across the University Community	IT have launched a project to make name changing easier on University systems. Policy has been shared with University Welfare and Inclusion Council discussed the implementation of the policy on 11/10/21 and a working group has been formed to focus on this and the Gender Neutral Toilets Policy.
2020-21_004	Menu Diversity	President	This asks the Union to lobby the University's catering providers to increase the diversity of food options available with a specific focus on religious and cultural diversity.	The President has reached out to Chartwells and they attended Welfare and Inclusion Council in April 2021. President is continuing to liaise with Chartwells.
2020-21_005	Multifaith Rooms	President	This mandates the Union to lobby the University to ensure it has Multifaith rooms on all campuses that are available to students when they need them.	President on working group to ensure that a facility is included in plans for Severn Campus. Increased promotion of City Campus space was conducted in April 2021. Agreed with University that space should no longer be routinely locked

				<p>Welfare and Inclusion Council discussed the implementation of the policy on 11/10/21 and agreed that promotion should be republished and discussed the need for a space at Jenny Lind or better promotion at Jenny Lind or the space in Charles Hastings.</p>
2020-21_006	Sexual Violence, NDAs and Student Sex Workers	President	This policy requires the SU to lobby the University to <ul style="list-style-type: none">- make sure students who experience sexual harassment, assault and/or violence feel comfortable and able to report it.- To Recognise the prevalence and diverse range of motivators for students engaging in sex work; as	

			<p>well as the support required to ensure they feel safe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To lobby the University to review its policy on non-disclosure agreements. 	
2020-21_007	TeamWorc Committee Name	VP Student Activities	This policy requires the Union to rename TeamWorc Committee to TeamWorc Council.	This policy has been completed and all governance documents have been updated. The first TeamWorc Council took place on 11th October 2021.
2020-21_008	Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Showman and Boater Pledge	President	This policy asks the Union to lobby the University to adopt the Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Showman and Boater Pledge	A meeting was held with the University's Director of Access and Inclusion in June 2021. University is considering whether to adopt.
2020-21_009	Nightbus Revival (31/07/2023)	President	This policy requires the Union to lobby the University to reinstate the Nightbus service	Temporary Nightbus ran in Welcome Week 2021 and was used by a significant number of students. We are working with

			between the City Centre and St John's Campus.	the University to identify sources for external funding.
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