

1587 University/Union partnership group on sport at UEA passed 9 Oct 14

Proposed Yinbo Yu, Activities and Opportunities Officer
Seconded Liam McCafferty, Postgraduate Education Officer

Union Notes

1. The union operates and supports student run Sports Clubs at UEA through the Union Sports Association, providing help and advice to Union clubs and ensuring they operate safely, as well as holding their funds and running an insurance scheme through the SAM card.
2. The university Department of Sport (based at Sportspark) is responsible for student sport activity, including the 'Ziggurat' challenge and intra-mural programmes.
3. Last year Union Council passed a motion that mandated the formation of a joint University/Union partnership group on sport at UEA.
4. Its aims are to
 - a. Focus on reducing any duplication of effort between the Union and University, maximising the use of students' money.
 - b. Ensure a joint strategy for external funding for sport, and a joint Union-University capital expenditure plan for sport.
 - c. Strive to enhance the student sport / physical activity programme through improved promotion and coordination across campus, working closely together on participation targets.

Union Believes

1. One of the core parts of the Students' Union mission to provide student opportunities is to support and fund Sports Clubs
2. This year the SU's integrated Sports and Societies offer won the WhatUni best Clubs and Socs of the year award
3. We will shortly open an amazing new space to support people running Clubs And Socs in the middle of campus in Union House, easily accessible by students
4. The Union is explicitly democratic- students make the decisions, student elect the Activities & Opportunities Officer, and students make grant funding decisions
5. The average National Student Survey score for Unis where Sports Clubs are run by the University is 11% lower than our score
6. UEA Sports Clubs, a part of the SU, won the Varsity against Essex last year
7. Whilst it is important to work in partnership with the University on things like Capital Expenditure, Participation targets and Planning, there must be no implication that this might mean moving Sports Clubs under University control

Union Resolves

1. As part of the University/Union partnership group on sport at UEA, to rule out any shift of Student Sports Clubs to the University Sport Dept
2. To nevertheless continue to work together on the Sports Partnership group goals
3. To reaffirm the value and benefits of Student Sports Clubs being part of the Union in any partnership group meetings