

2251 Sport for all

Proposer: Camille Koosyial (Activities and Opportunities Officer)

Seconder: Oli Gray (Sports Executive , Activities and Opportunities elect)

Union Notes

1. Sport and physical activity plays a vital role of student experience at UEA.
2. In 2016, YouGov reported that '29% of students experience clinical levels of psychological distress associated with increased risk of anxiety, depression, substance use and personality disorder'
3. Sport and Recreation Alliance, reports that's just moderate intensity exercise is a viable way to treat depression and anxiety and improve general mental wellbeing via improved mood.
4. Similarly 'sport has a role to play in the development of graduate employability skills and attributes such as those connected to leadership, organisation, time management and team working'
5. Sport England research finds that ' BAME students are less likely to be involved in sport, with nearly 28% not doing any sport within a week, in comparison to 21% of White British students'
6. Research also finds that 'Disabled people are twice as likely to be physically inactive (43%) than non-disabled people (21%). Recently, BUCS have also indicated that 'there is still 17% fewer disabled students participating in sport compared to their non-disabled peers.'
7. In 2012 research conducted by NUS' 'Out in Sport' finds that '46% of LGBT+ don't participate in sport and find the culture around sport sometimes unwelcoming. Furthermore, 14% of those who have participated in sports teams have experienced homophobia, biphobia, or transphobia which has put them off participating'
8. Finally, in a report co-ordinated by BUCS and Women in Sport, they have found that '53% of female students, compared to 63% of male students.'¹
9. We also recognise that Healthcare students often are in full time study/placement 9-5pm and find that current sporting and physical activity services are inaccessible. (these figures indicate that this affects 1563 HSC students, who will undertake a placement.)²
10. At UEASU in our grouping demographics report of Sport Association Membership (SAM) highlights that; 12% of memberships are held by PGT and PGR students. ³ Despite Postgraduates representing approximately 25% of the student population. ⁴
11. In partnership, uea+sport and UEASU are the main providers of sport and physical activity on campus.

Union Believes

¹ 'Sports, Sports, Sports! Increasing Participation and Breaking Down Barriers' – Ali Milani, Harry Shotton. NUS Report 2017

² 'Student access to sporting facilities' – Camille Koosyial and Madeleine Colledge. Paper and research conduct for Student Sport and Physical Activity Committee. 09/02/2018

³ Grouping Demographics Report for UEASU SAM memberships, 26/01/2018.

⁴ 'Student access to sporting facilities' – Camille Koosyial and Madeleine Colledge. Paper and research conduct for Student Sport and Physical Activity Committee. 09/02/2018

1. It is recognised within student's unions nationwide that sporting activity plays a key role in shaping the experience of our members.
2. All students regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, gender, sex, sexual orientation, race, religion/belief, marriage or civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity should be able to access sports without fear of discrimination.
3. There are currently clear social, economic and study-based barriers that prevent our members from getting involved with sport and physical activity on campus, specifically within our liberation groups and amongst PG, HSC and international students.
4. Of these student groups, the level of participation in sport and physical activity should be proportional to number of students we have in the wider student population. For example, in Union Notes 10: As Postgraduates represent approximately 25% of the student population, our SAM demographics should also show 25% of its memberships to be held by postgraduate students.
5. NUS and BUCS and other student unions nationwide have taken an active role in challenging participation in sport and breaking down the barriers.
6. Uea + Sport and UEA as the main suppliers of sport and physical activity have an obligation to ensure its accessibility for all and ensuring the university are truly championing this area of work.

Union Resolves

1. To mandate the Activities and Opportunities Officer to continue to champion inclusivity, and to work alongside the Sports Executive and The Student Officer Committee (SOC) to help deliver inclusive and accessible sport and physical activity on campus.
2. To mandate the Student's Union to continue to update and conduct specific research in barriers between engagement of sport, for those who are already engaged and for those who are not. For example, end of year reports and surveys on levels of engagements.
3. To continue to work alongside uea+sport and the ueaccess scheme, to continue to breakdown barriers and ensure accessible delivery on sport and physical activity.
4. To lobby uea + sport to include specific strands within their 2018 strategy, and future strategy development which targets engagement with the aforementioned groups.
5. To work with uea + sport and with student representation to feed into the sport strategy ensuring inclusivity is key component. This should include data collection of participation numbers across all services.
6. Ensure adequate time and resource is given in the Student Sport and Physical Activity Committee to look at this.
7. To continue to work with NUS, BUCS, Take A Stand and the BUCS inclusion board to be at the forefront of delivery inclusive and accessible sport for all.

8. To deliver appropriate training and awareness alongside liberation officers, to sports committees and members on developing provisions, and good practice, advising them on what steps to take to dismantle barriers for access in their sports participation.
9. For the Activities and Opportunities officer to consider and challenge other factors that affect participation for example, facilities, storage and the cost of sport and physical activity on campus.
10. To develop a forum where students feel comfortable to discuss and develop the content and delivery of sport and physical activity.
11. To become more of a visible point of contact for students to report and disclose discrimination and harassment with sport and physical activity.
12. To uphold a zero tolerance against initiations within student group activities.