

2337 Transform International Student Assembly into a Subcommittee (An amendment to the Articles of Associations and to the Bye Laws)

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Summary

International students are a large subgroup of students at UEA however they are significantly underrepresented and the SU for a while have struggled in engaging them. Giving these students their autonomy could be the first step into empowering and enabling them to take the lead in making changes that benefits their fellow international students.

Council Notes

1. In February 2017 a motion has passed to change previous Caucuses and assemblies into subcommittee. However, the international assembly was kept the same ¹.
2. International students are a large subgroup of the student population with over 2800 students here at UEA – over 18% of all students ².
3. The international assembly committee consists of 5 elected committee members, and in each assembly only those Individual Members that self-define as being a part of the international students' group shall be entitled to participate in the governance, discussion or activities of the group.
4. Both international students' officers and the International assembly committee agrees with the need of this change in structure. This change has also been discussed at the student officer committee meeting.

Council Believes

1. There's still a significant gap in the representation of international students in their student union.
2. International students should be the ones making the decisions that affects their student group, as this is an essential step in the democracy of our union.
3. Giving international students the ability to fund their own campaigns and events will encourage them to take part in their Union activities and lead the change.

Council Resolves

1. Mandate this subcommittee to have a minimum of 2 meeting per semester to allow more opportunities for international students to take part.
2. The subcommittee should be the platform where all international students can give feedback on different aspects of their student union and University.
3. The subcommittee should encourage international students to lead their own campaigns and help their international students' officers in their campaigns as well.
4. The roles of the individuals in the international assembly committee members will be the same with the change into a Subcommittee for the duration of the academic year 2018-19 for the duration of the changeover period from assembly to the International Student Subcommittee.
5. A staff member should be assigned to support the subcommittee with their work throughout the year.
6. For the student officer committee to look at a budget for the rest of the 2018-19 academic year and reassess annually.
7. In the Articles of Association 67.2.1, delete "International Students".
8. Introduce the following Bye Law under the heading of **"Student Officer Committee Sub-Committees:**

"Sub-Committees of the Student Officer Committee: International Students

1.22a The International Students Sub Committee shall consist of the International (EU) and (Rest of the World) Officers, representatives from international cultural societies, and six students (who self-identify as international) elected as a block at least two of which must be in their first year of study and at least three of which must self-define as women or non-binary. Renumber accordingly.

1.22a.1 The International Students Sub Committee shall co-ordinate a programme of campaigning and activities for related issues." Renumber accordingly.

1.22d.2 The programme may include: discussion of the issues that international students are facing, ideas for campaigns to fix these issues,

discussion of the work of their international officers, the representation of international students in the SU, actively represent the opinion of international students in Go-global, international SU and International Student Day. Renumber accordingly.

1. Motion 2039 i) A set of amendments to the Article of Association and to the Bye-Laws from the student leadership review group. – passed at 2nd/Feb/2017
2. <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/media-room/facts>