

2168 Making the Library and LTS Accessible Again

Summary: This motion is about making the library and arts hub accessible to all students

Proposer: Emily Cutler (Students with Disabilities Officer)

Seconder: Hannah Murgatroyd (Physical Illness Place)

Union Notes

1. That those who cannot use an evacuchair cannot access the entirety of the library or the Arts Hub
2. Both the Arts Building and the Library are currently scheduled for building updates or extensions in the current plans
3. The need to access the arts hubs is essential for AMA, DEV, ECO, HIS HUM, LAW, LDC, and PPL students
4. Those with a disability tend to have greater need to access their hub
5. At the Access all Areas meeting on the 24th October 2017, the group agreed to allow students affected by not being able to reach the arts hub to use either of the other two hubs, which are both accessible.

Union Believes

1. That the whole of the university should be accessible to every student.
2. Limited access to the library severely reduces your ability to learn
3. Although someone can retrieve a book for you, nothing can substitute browsing for a book.
4. Although the decision made at Access all Areas, is a temporary solution, it is not the best solution and there is still bound to be some confusion, even though only a relatively small number of students are affected by this issue.

Union Resolves

1. To campaign to ensure that when the Lasden Wall is renovated, the Arts Hub is places on floor 01, as that is where the disabled entrance is, and for a fire lift to put in so that the whole of the building is accessible.
2. To Lobby the University that when the Library is renovated a fire lift is built in, so that every floor is accessible, and for a dedicated disabled students study room to be put in, similar to UCL's SENIT Suite, with, at least, orthopaedic chairs for those with pain, height adjustable desks for wheelchair users, special keyboards and mice for those with arthritis and a range of specific hardware and software designed to assist disabled students to study independently
3. To campaign in the meantime to widen the aisle in the library so they are fully wheelchair accessible
4. Encourage the library to put up signage on the current high adjustable desks, indicating that wheelchair users have priority