

Passed 8 December 2111

Hidden Course Costs:

Proposer: Tash Ross (Community and Student Rights Officer)

Seconder: Meg Evans (Academic Officer)

Union Notes:

- 1) Students often have to pay for unexpected items not advertised as part of their course cost, such as things like lab coats, course dossiers and field trips.
- 2) The University does not advertise these additional costs to prospective students.
- 3) Based on results of the Union Annual Student Survey and from talking to students, there is a belief amongst students that a lot of additional costs are unfair on top of tuition fees.

Union believes:

- 1) Students should be informed of all additional course costs that they may incur over the course of their degrees, including things such as printing and photocopying costs, which will enable them to prepare for these costs at the start of the year.
- 2) The University should aim to absorb as much of the additional costs as possible, especially in light of the tuition fees going up to £9000.
- 3) The University should publicise these costs in their prospectuses, and module catalogues in order to inform students of the costs they might incur, and allow students to make an educated decision about their choice of university knowing the costs they will incur.

Union Resolves:

- 1) For Student Officer Committee to research and publish a report which considers all the costs students incur and what can and cannot be deemed 'acceptable'.
- 2) To lobby the University to publish all its additional course costs, including in its prospectuses for potential students.
- 3) To lobby the University to reduce the burden of cost of students by absorbing some of the costs themselves.
- 4) To mandate SOC to report back to the first council of 2012 on the progress of this motion.