

No to the Marketisation of Higher Education

This Union Notes:

1. That in 2004 the student movement only lost the battle against top-up fees by 5 votes in Parliament.
2. That the Union of UEA Students was one of the leaders in the fight against top-up fees.
3. That top-up fees are currently “capped” at £3000 for home students, and that this is the price of most courses at UEA.
4. That the Government is planning a review of the “cap” in 2009, with the potential for it to be lifted altogether.
5. That UEA officials have already indicated that they are likely to support a lifting of the “cap”.
6. That our local MP is Charles Clarke, the then Minister of Education who pushed through top-up fees.

This Union Believes:

1. Fees affect every student.
2. Treating students as consumers and marketisation of Higher Education has a disastrous effect on the student experience and society as a whole.
3. That the fight to prevent further marketisation of education can be won.

This Union Resolves:

1. To re-affirm our opposition to fees in principle and any attempt to lift the cap, and to condemn the marketisation of our education.
2. To make the fight against any lifting of the cap a high priority in our Union and, since fees affect all students, to mandate all Executive Officers over the next two years to participate in this campaign.
3. To write to the Vice-Chancellor, our MPs, our Prime Minister and any other relevant person or body to inform them of this opposition.