

Student Movement Action Group Minutes - 14:30 - 18th October 2024

Attendees:

Syed Saddath - Chair

Jane Baston - Staff

Paige Archer - Minutes

Meeting:

JB Explained how AG works

JB and SS read over the policy

SS asked if we didn't renew it what happens

By having this policy, we would be able to say we already have this policy around protests and therefore we should support this protest off the principal of this policy.

SS: What does National Student Movement mean?

JB explained and gave some recent examples such as the national student protests for Palestine Solidarity.

It's more to do with when students come together for a cause collectively, the guild is part of that collective and can take stances on that. Its about the principal of the student movement and the principal that we are stronger together

For example, if there was an NUS climate change protest organised, the guild has a policy that we have declared a climate emergency, therefore supporting this NUS protest is in line with guild policy.

If we did not have a policy like this, we would not have a policy to back up the guild's support on these things.

SS: It's a little bit confusing as it is right now, what way could we add some wording to make it clearer and more legible?

SS: SS think that this policy kind of conflicts itself, between NUS policy and Guild Policy

SS and JB discussed different ways to word this to include 'University of Birmingham', to ensure it is UoB specific.

Amendment 1:

“The Guild is part of the wider national student movement, with which comes a collective responsibility to represent the interests of all University of Birmingham students on issues that directly impact them as students.”

SS expressed he is happy with this change.

SS raised the questions, why do we need to mention NUS?

SS and JB discussed different ways to word this to make it broader to include other student representative bodies, not just NUS.

Amendment 2:

“The Guild believes it has the duty to back NUS, or other national student representative bodies, supported demonstrations and protests, if they are in line with Guild Policy, and are in the interests of students.”

Final amendments:

The Guild is part of the wider national student movement, with which comes a collective responsibility to represent the interests of all University of Birmingham students on issues that directly impact them as students. We recognise that we are stronger in such a movement and that our campaigns, lobbying and representation are stronger too.

The Guild believes it has the duty to back NUS, or other student representative bodies, supported demonstrations and protests, if they are in line with Guild Policy, and are in the interests of students.

SS and JB agreed not to take this to an all-student vote, because this is already in the interest of students and something that all student union should be doing foundationally.

JB left meeting due conflicting meeting at 14:50

SS agrees this will go to auto renewal.

Meeting closed 14:52

CLOSED