

**Proposer:** Joseph Williams (Postgraduate Committee)

**Seconded:** Pdraig Smead (Non-Portfolio Officer)

### **Summary**

This motion seeks to restore resolution 3 to Motion 065, thereby mandating the Full Time Officers to maintain a position of zero redundancies for the duration of the 'Accelerated Strategic Review Programme', and to make clear this position of zero redundancies in any decision-making process related to the Strategic Review Programme, especially committee meetings.

### **Union Notes**

1. Please refer to 'Union notes' 1-4 of Motion 065.
2. The SU is now mandated by Motion 065 (resolution 1), passed at the March Union Council, 'to take an explicit "zero redundancies" position and oppose the planned mass redundancies at every opportunity'.
3. The SU is now mandated by Motion 051 (resolution 2), passed at the February Union Council, to 'support UEA UCU's, Unison's, and Unite's demand of zero redundancies.'
4. The UEA Statutes, 1.2.5 (Approved on 12 July 2022) state that 'at least one member [of University Council] shall be a student of the University'. The UEA Ordinances, 5.1 dictate that membership of University Council will include 'two students nominated by the executive of the Students Union'. [1]
5. A mandate to take a zero redundancies position does not constitute a conflict of interest for any student representatives on University committees. The Ordinances 5.12 define a conflict of interest as 'a pecuniary, family or other personal interest, whether or not in common with others, in any matter under discussion at any meeting at which they are present'. [2]
6. Nowhere in the UEA SU Constitution (The Articles of Association and the Bye-Laws) or the UEA Constitution (the Royal Charter, the Statutes, or the Ordinances) is there any reference to a student representative being forced to resign from a University committee due to a real or perceived conflict of interest resulting from a position mandated by Union Council. [3]

7. There is no precedent for a student representative being forced to resign from a University committee due to a real or perceived conflict of interest resulting from a position mandated by Union Council.

### **Union Believes**

1. Please refer to 'Union believes' 1-5 of Motion 065.
2. Student representatives are not invited to committee meetings to agree entirely with the decisions of the Executive Team or University Council. It is self-evident that student representatives are invited to these meetings to represent the interests of students.
3. Student representatives can, and must, hold the Executive Team and University Council to account in every committee meeting.
4. Student representatives can, and should, see these committee meetings as an opportunity to direct the conversation in the interests of the students they represent. To this end, Statute 1.2.5 and Ordinance 5.1 afford these student representatives a unique form of leverage within such meetings.

### **Union Resolves**

1. To mandate all five full-time officers to maintain a position of zero redundancies for the duration of the 'Accelerated Strategic Review Programme', and to make clear this position of zero redundancies in any decision-making process related to the Strategic Review Programme, especially committee meetings.
2. To mandate all five full-time officers to work with the three campus unions (UCU, Unite, and Unison) for the duration of the 'Accelerated Strategic Review Programme'.

### **References**

1. University of East Anglia Statutes 2022/23. <https://www.uea.ac.uk/web/about/university-information/university-governance/academic-calendar/statutes>; UEA Ordinances: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/web/about/university-information/university-governance/academic-calendar/ordinances> (accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023).
2. UEA Ordinances: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/web/about/university-information/university-governance/academic-calendar/ordinances> (accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023).
3. UEA SU Articles of Association and Bye-Laws: <https://www.ueasu.org/union/governance/constitution/>; UEA Royal Charter: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/university-information/university-governance/academic-calendar/charter>; UEA Statutes: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/web/about/university-information/university-governance/academic-calendar/statutes>; UEA Ordinances: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/web/about/university-information/university-governance/academic-calendar/ordinances> (all accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023).