

1791 Wheels on Campus - making UEA more accessibility friendly

(passed 19 November 2015)

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Union Notes

1. 10.9% of students identify as disabled; 2% of the population of UK uses a wheelchair.
2. 10 students use a wheelchair / mobility scooter on campus.
3. Everyone has a right to education without hindrance.
4. That being able to move freely on campus and access buildings of study is crucial for students, especially those in wheelchairs/mobility scooters, to have fair access to education.
5. Areas on campus that are designed to make campus more accessible was poorly designed, so that slopes are too steep, and are dangerous in winter, and that lifts are either constantly breaking down or are unavailable on the weekends.
6. Students with in wheelchairs/mobility issues are unable to access certain parts of campus due to inaccessibility.

Union Believes

1. That students in wheelchairs / mobility scooters should not face unfair situations where they are forced to miss seminars or lectures.

2. Students' access needs must be considered before issuing timetables.
3. The University must offer adequate disabled parking for students outside every building of study.

Union Resolves:

1. To mandate Management Committee to make the top floor of Union House accessible to all its students, and resolve the current matter that students who do not feel comfortable or are unable to be lifted out of their wheelchairs/mobility scooters having no current fire escape evacuation plan.
2. To mandate the SU (via the Student's with Disabilities Caucus), especially the Students' with Disabilities Officer and Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer, to:
 - a) lobby the University to provide disabled parking for students outside the Enterprise building
 - b) lobby the University to make sufficient funds available to make campus more accessibility friendly; and, more specifically, to lobby the University to:
 - I. ensure that lifts/elevators are all functional and are available outside the 9-5 hours, and available on the weekends.
 - II. provide a fire evacuation procedure to every student with physical mobility impairment, without their prompting, every year.
 - III. provide training for seminar leaders and lecturers on disability sensitivity and ablest language.
 - IV. lobby the Sports Park to ensure that students (and members of the

local community) have fair access to the facilities on campus by providing adequate disabled parking, without hindrance.

3. To mandate the Campaigns and Democracy Officer and Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer to campaign against ableist language, especially within the academic sphere.

4. To mandate the Under Graduate Education Officer and Post Graduate Education Officer to lobby the University to make timetabling more friendly for students with access needs, so they are never asked to attend lectures or seminars in buildings they cannot access.