

1724 Council needs to be more accessible passed 15 April 2015

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Secunder: Tom Etheridge (Non-Portfolio Officer)

Union Notes

1. On 30th October 2014, a motion was passed by the Students with Disabilities Officer to ensure accessibility to campaigns for students with disabilities.
2. Some conditions cannot be determined by someone's appearance. These include (but are not limited to) chronic pain syndrome, lupus, asthma, and mental illnesses like anxiety and Schizophrenia.
3. Currently, councillors who want to give a speech must go to the front of the lecture theatre to do so.
4. Not all students are able to either make their way to the front of the lecture theatre or feel comfortable speaking in front of large groups of people.

Union Believes

1. That the Union of UEA Students seeks to recognise the different requirements of students and ensure that equal access is made available to all.
2. That assumptions based on students' ability should not be made, especially based on their appearance.
3. That the current method implemented by council is not fully accessible to those who cannot make their way to the front of the lecture theatre or do not feel comfortable doing so.
4. The ability to speak at the front of a lecture theatre is in no way related to being a good representative.

Union Resolves

1. That all students should be able to choose as to whether they would like to come to the front of the lecture theatre to deliver their speech.
2. That those students who do not want to go the front, or cannot, will have a microphone brought to them so they can deliver their speech from the place in which they are sat.
3. That the Campaigns and Democracy Officer should look into alternative spaces on campus that may be more accessible for students with disabilities.