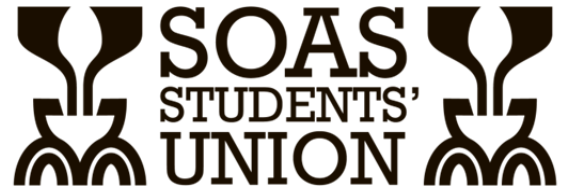




**Union General Meeting Motion**

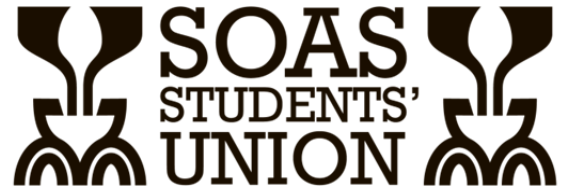
<b>Title:</b>	Affiliate with Union Solidarity International
<b>Proposer:</b>	Georgie Robertson
<b>Secunder:</b>	Tom King
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 That we must work with other students' unions, trade unions, organisations, and movements, and build wider networks, in order to achieve our political aims.</p> <p>1.2 That Union Solidarity International (USi) is a new organisation that was set up in 2012, and already has hundreds of thousands of hits on its website and Youtube channel.</p> <p>1.3 That USi aims to build grassroots international union solidarity using the latest technology; linking trade union and social movement activists from around the world directly with each other, enabling them to create and lead campaigns around labour, human, social, and economic, rights.</p> <p>1.4 That USi intends to be a vehicle for the student movement in promoting student-led campaigns such as defending public higher education, opposing tuition fees and the selling off of student debt, and fighting for fairer working conditions for both university, and outsourced, staff; also linking these student-focussed campaigns to broader ones, for example to campaigns against austerity and neoliberal vandalism.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1 That the values of USi are in line with those of the SOAS Students' Union.</p> <p>2.2 That affiliating with USi would both help to promote our Union's campaigns to the wider world, and facilitate our collaboration with both trade unions and various other groups in all countries, to create a fairer and more sustainable world.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1 To add USi to the affiliation ballot that will be voted on as part of the elections.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

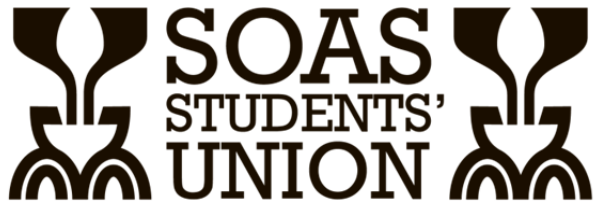
<b>Title:</b>	Democratise SOAS
<b>Proposer:</b>	Georgie Robertson 537687
<b>Seconder:</b>	David Suber 538117
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 That the Democratise SOAS campaign is a key Students' Union campaign</p> <p>1.2 That the long-term goal of the Democratise SOAS campaign is to democratise the University's governance structures; the short-term goal is to minimise the gap between students and staff, and the SOAS management and create a dialogue that can lead to the governance of the University becoming more representative, transparent, and accountable.</p> <p>1.3 That a successful Student and Staff Forum was held last November and that another Forum will be held on Thursday 30th January, at 7pm in the Lucas Lecture Theatre (otherwise known as G2 or DLT).</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1 That the Forum is an important opportunity for students and staff (both in-house and outsourced) to come together and discuss staff's struggle for fair pay, the Justice For Cleaners campaign, fighting the privatisation and marketisation of higher education, democratising SOAS and other grievances towards SOAS management, and how we can join forces in achieving our demands on the University.</p> <p>2.2 That in many ways the University is not being run in the interests of students and staff.</p> <p>2.3 That democratising SOAS is necessary to ensure that the University is run in the interests of student and staff, who together make up the SOAS community.</p> <p>2.4 That higher education is increasingly being privatised and marketised and run like businesses. We believe education and knowledge has intrinsic value that cannot be</p>

	measured in monetary terms, and that education is a public good, not a commodity.
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1 To continue to fully support the Democratise SOAS campaign</p> <p>3.2 To promote the Student and Staff Forum on the 30TH January</p> <p>3.3 To engage in wider campaigns to fight the privatisation of higher education and democratise universities.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Fight the Student Debt Sell-off
<b>Proposer:</b>	Fanny Malinen
<b>Seconder:</b>	Georgie Robertson
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 That in June, the government announced its plans to sell the existing student loan stock,</p> <p>1.2 That private investors could lift the cap on interest rates and change the conditions of the repayment these loans drastically</p> <p>1.3 That the media widely reported that the debate in Parliament would take place this autumn.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1 That we as students have been misled to think that we are accepting loans on favourable conditions,</p> <p>2.2 That this was one of the key issues in the debate over rising fees in 2010,</p> <p>2.3 That student debt is one of the ways in which we are disciplined to the logic of the market and we should not accept this financialisation of our everyday lives,</p> <p>2.4 That the plan to privatise student debt is not even economically viable as the government has failed to create graduate jobs.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1 To make the fighting of student debt a priority campaign,</p> <p>3.2 That the sabbatical officers report back to the student body regularly what they are doing on the issue,</p> <p>3.3 To liaise with other Universities and campaigns on the issue of debt.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Fractionals for Fair Play Campaign
<b>Proposer:</b>	Victoria Stadheim, 264167
<b>Secunder:</b>	Lorenza Monaco, 179266
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Many SOAS postgraduate students undertaking PhD research work as tutors and lecturers employed on fractional contracts at SOAS. They are dependent on this source of income to pay their tuition and subsistence. SOAS Students Union represents these students.</li> <li>2. That fractional staff at SOAS perform many tasks for which they are not directly remunerated.</li> <li>3. That fractional staff pay is determined by a multiplier of a standard amount of time rather than by an accurate measure of their labour time.</li> <li>4. That fractional staff are regularly paid under the London Living Wage in practice when all their hours of work are considered. SOAS policy is to pay the London Living Wage.</li> <li>5. That fractional staff at SOAS have launched the "Fractionals for Fair Play" campaign.</li> </ol>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That fractional staff perform an indispensable role in the academic life of SOAS.</li> <li>2. That all workers deserve a fair days wage for a fair days work.</li> <li>3. That fractional staff should be remunerated for each hour of labour performed.</li> </ol>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To practically and politically support the "Fractionals for Fair Play" campaign.</li> <li>2. To facilitate the distribution of campaign materials to the student body where appropriate.</li> <li>3. To invite the campaign to speak at union events where appropriate.</li> <li>4. To support future actions taken by fractional staff in the pursuit of their campaign goals.</li> </ol>



### Union General Meeting Motion

<b>Title:</b>	Free Graduation Campaign
<b>Proposer:</b>	Moonlie Fong - 288541
<b>Seconder:</b>	David East de6
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1. The costs for Graduation Ceremony for Undergraduate, Taught Masters and Research students:</p> <p>Tickets £15/student and £25/guest Gown Hire £50 and Photo package £100+</p> <p>2. Other universities are doing it for free: Birmingham, Kent, Liverpool, LSE, Oxford,... and other EU universities.</p> <p>3. SOAS has always charged students the highest tuition fees across UK.</p> <p>4. Students are only notified of the costs in the second term in their final year.</p> <p>5. Taught Masters Students graduate 10 months after they submitted their dissertation in September. In the meantime, they return home and pay for travel arrangements to attend their graduation day.</p> <p>6. SOAS provides and funds Welcome Week, Insight Days, Open Days, Bridging Courses for free to entice students to study at SOAS, but upon completing the degree, there are no funds available for students to attend the ceremony.</p> <p>7. It is not advertised what SOAS provides for the Graduation (reception,..) No transparency in what the graduations costs will be spent on.</p> <p>8. Graduation is mainly run by SOAS student ambassadors and volunteers.</p> <p>9. an online petition was launched on 2 March 2014: <a href="https://docs.google.com/a/soas.ac.uk/forms/d/1DCtH3efD9bzQvJFj7VJC3FzFA7Cn-zml3FiwhTSsdI0/viewform">https://docs.google.com/a/soas.ac.uk/forms/d/1DCtH3efD9bzQvJFj7VJC3FzFA7Cn-zml3FiwhTSsdI0/viewform</a></p> <p>10. Up to 13 March 2014, over 400 students and staff members have signed this. The petition is still ongoing.</p> <p>11. Most common responses are that 1) the tuition fees are high enough, 2) those who aren't in their final year are surprised they have to pay at all and 3) it is a time of celebration.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	"1. Tuition fees should cover these costs.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. SOAS should allocate funds for graduation.</li> <li>3. Free graduation should have been a part of the policy a long time ago</li> <li>4. SOAS pride themselves on equality, yet exclude students with lesser economic maneuverability.</li> <li>5. Graduation is an essential part of the student's experience.</li> <li>6. It is offensive to charge students on their last day to celebrate their hard work.</li> <li>7. The Graduation Ceremony is a day when the student's family and friends as well as the students themselves can celebrate completion of the degree. This occasion should welcome those friends and family, not charge them for celebrating this day.</li> <li>8. Students should be included in the planning of their own graduation.</li> <li>9. New and prospective students should be notified of the costs of graduation</li> <li>10. SOAS should be transparent on how much money they spent on the graduation</li> </ol>
<p><b>This Union Resolves:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. support the Free Graduation campaign and make representations to management on behalf of this campaign, calling for free tickets for the student who is graduating and two guests. For this to happen, funds must be allocated by the school for the graduation ceremony</li> <li>2. will obtain a clear and accessible guideline of what the costs of graduation are and how the money student's pay for tickets is spent. The cost of graduation tickets is a hidden course cost which should be made clear to students at the start of their degree – through the website &amp; email communication</li> <li>3. To make the Free Graduation Campaign a priority campaign of the SU</li> </ol>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

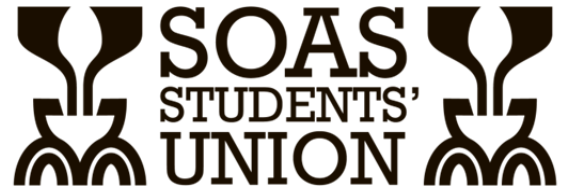
<b>Title:</b>	Gender neutral titles
<b>Proposer:</b>	Tom King
<b>Secunder:</b>	Leah Edwards
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) that the School does not currently offer the option of a gender neutral title in its admin system</p> <p>1.2) that local authorities such as Brighton &amp; Hove City Council have introduced such titles and that other Students' Unions such as Manchester are campaigning for their universities to introduce such titles</p> <p>1.3) that the Equality Challenge Unit, which is responsible for promoting equality and diversity in higher education, says institutions may wish to consider "how they can allow students and staff to choose a gender-neutral title such as 'Mx'"</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) that trans* and genderqueer students have a right to appropriate recognition by their university</p> <p>2.2) that the School should take active steps to ensure SOAS is accessible to trans* and genderqueer students</p> <p>2.3) that the introduction of gender neutral titles is an important step in eliminating barriers to access and participation in higher education for trans* and genderqueer students</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	3.1) to call for the School to introduce the option of gender neutral titles (Mx) in its admin system





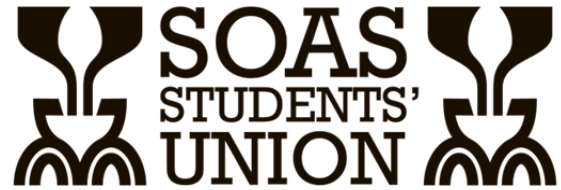
**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Gender neutral toilets
<b>Proposer:</b>	Tom King
<b>Secunder:</b>	Leah Edwards
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) that the School provides only two gender neutral toilets, which are located in the basement of the main Russell Square building</p> <p>1.2) that there are no gender neutral toilets in the library</p> <p>1.3) that gender neutral toilets could be introduced in the library at little cost to the School</p> <p>1.4) that gender specific toilets enforce the idea of binary and heteronormative gender identities which not everyone is comfortable with and that not everyone self-defines with a binary gender identity</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) that the School has a responsibility to provide facilities accessible to all students</p> <p>2.2) that the School should take active steps to ensure SOAS is accessible to trans* and genderqueer students</p> <p>2.3) that providing more gender neutral toilets is one measure to help achieve the above</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) to call for the School introduce gender neutral toilets in the library</p> <p>3.2) to campaign for better provision of facilities which are accessible for trans* and genderqueer students</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Improve Accountability of the SOAS Spirit
<b>Proposer:</b>	Adam Barr
<b>Secunder:</b>	Ned Dukes
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) That the SOAS Spirit claims to be the official student newspaper of the SU.</p> <p>1.2) That there was recently a controversy over a front page article in the November issue of the Spirit.</p> <p>1.3) That members of the student body pointed out potential inaccuracies and biases in the article.</p> <p>1.4) That the paper still hasn't responded to the complaints.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) That the SOAS Spirit should be accountable to the student body.</p> <p>2.2) That so far, response to criticism has been lacking.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) To make the SOAS Spirit institute a complaints procedure for the newspaper.</p> <p>3.2) To make the SOAS Spirit respond to complaints within 1 week with a correction or explanation.</p> <p>3.3) To mandate the SU Executive Committee to establish and elect an independent readers editor to investigate and respond to complaints.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

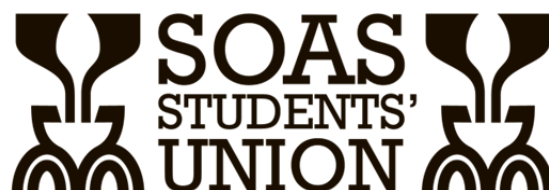
<b>Title:</b>	Invest in DJ Equipment
<b>Proposer:</b>	Joseph Devine
<b>Secunder:</b>	Larni Phoenix
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) That on Wednesday the 25th, the Creative Arts Society organised its first night in the Bar, and were informed that there was sufficient DJ-ing / sound equipment. Upon arrival, they were informed by an ex-sab that the equipment had been broken for a long time. It became apparent that there was no working equipment other than speakers, and there was a shortage of cables.</p> <p>1.2) You cannot have a DJ set without equipment</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) That the removal of one of the pool tables from the bar space (whether you agree or are happy with its removal or not) was partially to positively promote the usage of the bar for putting on events. More space =more dancing</p> <p>2.2) That a University filled with hundreds of society's representing various parts of the world, organising cultural, musical, or creative events, will inevitably need sound equipment at some point.</p> <p>2.3) That DJ sets will be great for SOAS to share a range of music, promote SOAS-ian and outside talent, get a good vibe going in the bar, and get back to putting on great parties! Good music on a good system = recipe for a good time.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) That a Mixer and CDj's should be purchased. A 4 channel mixer (extra channels for laptops, vinyl and other audio equipment) with two CDJs and DJ headphones can be purchased for £320.</p> <p>3.2) That the purchase of turntables should happen in future if the Creative Arts Society or individuals who DJ using Vinyl, are keen enough to regularly use them. A pair of new Technics or Stanton turntables can be bought for as little as £215-£230 in the future.</p> <p>3.3) The establishment of a permanent DJ area in the bar, so that the Bar can be used for live DJ sets with ease.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

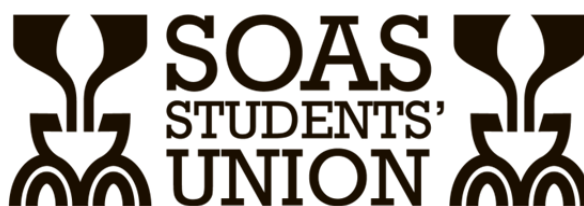
<b>Title:</b>	J4C Mural for the Smoking Area
<b>Proposer:</b>	Abigail Dalby Bowler
<b>Secunder:</b>	Mollie Hanley
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) The SOAS students union has an outside area known as 'the smoking area', which has a large blank and dirty white wall running along one side.</p> <p>1.2) Art is a form of resistance, produced by activists and social movements. Protest art has the power to reach a large audience and help spread momentum to people not usually aware of such causes.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) The smoking area wall could be used by a campaign to have a mural related to a SOAS SU campaign.</p> <p>2.2) Having a mural here would open up discussion within the student body that uses this area.</p> <p>2.3) The Justice for Cleaners campaign has been operating at SOAS since 2007. It fights for the rights of all SOAS workers, calling for an end to outsourcing on our campus and its aim is to bring the SOAS cleaners in house. Thus ending the discrimination they face as second-class workers and would end the intimidation and victimisation they face from the outsourced company ISS. Direct employment would help improve our cleaner's quality of life, as it would ensure they received decent sick pay and holidays and well as offering them a decent pension scheme.</p> <p>2.4) The student body has long been united with the cleaners in their struggle against outsourcing. The SOAS cleaners are currently escalating their protests through a planned strike.</p> <p>2.5) To coincide with this escalation the SU is also raising awareness for the campaign at this crucial time.</p> <p>2.6) Having a Justice for Cleaners mural in the 'smoking area' would raise the profile of the campaign and help spread awareness of the campaign through opening discussion amongst</p>

	<p>the students that use this space.</p> <p>2.7) The mural would also appropriate a space to voice student's opposition to managements repeated disregard for the call of the SOAS community to bring the cleaners in house (98% in a 2012 ballot.)</p>
<p><b>This Union Resolves:</b></p>	<p>3.1) To support the Justice for Cleaners campaign creating a mural of the design attached below, which references the 1968 French protests and Latin American workers struggles combined with quotes relating to student and worker struggles.</p> <p>3.2) That this mural stays in place for two years before a different design can be submitted to the UGM.</p> <p>3.3) That the cost of the mural can come from the campaigns budget of the SOAS SU.</p>



### Union General Meeting Motion

<b>Title:</b>	Justice For Cleaners
<b>Proposer:</b>	Johannes Svensson 573768
<b>Seconder:</b>	Abigail Dalby Bowler 539486
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 Since 2006 the SOAS Justice For Cleaners Campaign has fought for improved terms and conditions for the SOAS cleaners and for them to be brought back in-house.</p> <p>1.2 At the SOAS Governing Body meeting on the 4th July 2013, the Governing Body failed to address the demands by the SOAS cleaners and the wishes of the SOAS community expressed by ballot in November 2012, in which 98% of the 1,294 staff and students who took part, voted 'yes' to the SOAS cleaners being brought in-house.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1 The Proposal of a Shared Service between SOAS, Senate House, and Birkbeck fails to address campaign demands as it does not guarantee improved terms and conditions for the cleaners.</p> <p>2.2 That it is outrageous that SOAS management ignores SU, Unison and UCU demands and thus the wishes of the SOAS community.</p> <p>2.3 That the School's treatment of its cleaners reveals a huge gap between what is preached and what is practiced at SOAS, with the School's behaviour contradicting and undermining SOAS' identity as a progressive and critical institution that promotes values such as human rights and social justice, an ethos which the School itself adopts, for example in its '2020 Vision and Strategy for 2016 Centennial and Beyond'.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1 To fully support any campaign actions, including direct action and strikes, and an escalation of protests.</p>

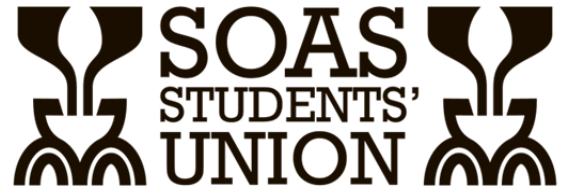


### Union General Meeting Motion

<b>Title:</b>	Justice for Mark Duggan
<b>Proposer:</b>	Kabir Joshi 296327
<b>Seconder:</b>	Hannah Slydel 541349
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1) Mark Duggan, a young black man who lived in Tottenham and was a dad of six was shot and killed by police on 4 August 2011.</p> <p>2) The jury in an Inquest into Mark's death delivered a verdict that Mark was not unlawfully killed even though they concluded that he was not holding a gun when he was shot dead by armed police.</p> <p>3) Since 1990 some 1,476 people have died in police custody or following police contact (source: <a href="http://inquest.org.uk">inquest.org.uk</a>). Yet not one police officer has been convicted. In Tottenham the family and friends of Cynthia Jarrett, Joy Gardner and Roger Sylvester and now Mark Duggan still have no justice.</p> <p>4) Mark and his family have been demonised by sections of the media with misinformation and lies spread about the case. Mark's criminal record was very minor – two fines on his record yet the media refer to him as a violent gangster and one of the 48 most dangerous criminals in Europe. In the days following Mark being killed information emerged in the media that there was a shoot-out and that a bullet was fired at police which was not true.</p> <p>5) In stark contrast with no police officer having faced criminal charges for killing young black men, many young people were given disproportionate sentences for minor crimes during the riots that took place following Mark's killing.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>1) The verdict in the Inquest into Mark Duggan's killing was influenced by the racist way in which Mark's character was tarnished by the police and media.</p> <p>2) The decision to find it lawful for the police to shoot an unarmed person has put all young people and in particular young black men at risk</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	1) Send a message of solidarity to the family of

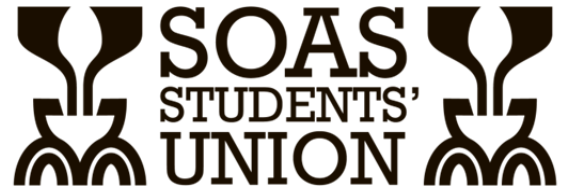
	<p>Mark Duggan at this very difficult time</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2) To sign the Mark Duggan Justice Campaign statement/ petition</li><li>3) To support the family in their continuing fight for justice for Mark Duggan</li><li>4) To invite a speaker from the campaign to an event at SOAS about the Duggan case</li><li>5) To raise concerns about the Inquest verdict and deaths at the hands of the state with members of Parliament</li><li>6) To give solidarity and support to the United Family and Friends Campaign</li></ol>
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### Union General Meeting Motion

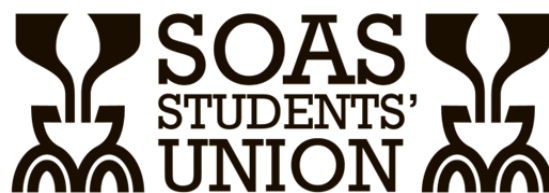
<b>Title:</b>	No Cops On Campus (Revised)
<b>Proposer:</b>	Simon Campbell
<b>Secunder:</b>	Grace Wilcock
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) That there has been a growing police presence on our campus.</p> <p>1.2) Students have been continually harassed in their use of university space, especially whilst campaigning for 3cosas and Save ULU.</p> <p>1.3) The police have used excessive force and even arrested a student representative in their move to control union organisation.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) That our 'No Cops on Campus' policy is there to protect students from intimidation and harassment in SOAS.</p> <p>2.2) Having police on site contradicts the aims of our union as a vehicle for social action and free expression.</p> <p>2.3) Our safe space is to be upheld by the SOAS community and its union, not through police involvement.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) To reaffirm our policy of 'No Cops on Campus' to protect students against a rising police presence.</p> <p>3.2) On the occasion that police do enter; that a sabbatical officer engages with the police to ascertain whether they can continue further dialogue off campus, in this way avoiding their contact with students.</p> <p>3.3) To pressure the school not to allow or invite police onto our campus for their events.</p> <p>3.4) To condemn police presence in halls of residence (Dinwiddy and Paul Robeson).</p> <p>3.5) To support students who, in their actions, may incur unlawful challenges by the police. For instance being followed, stopped and searched or arrested.</p> <p>3.6) That in cases of emergency, or where students wish to use our safe space to talk with police, they will be admitted to the building.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Oppose the privatization of the Student Loan Book, Renew support for the Student Assembly Against Austerity
<b>Proposer:</b>	Tom Costerton
<b>Seconder:</b>	Georgie Robertson
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) That in a report released on 25th November 2013, the government proposed to privatise the student loan book in 2015.</p> <p>1.2) That the privatisation of student loans has already begun on the 25th November 2013 the government sold off student loans worth £900m to a private company for the price of £160m, which includes all the student loans taken out before 1998</p> <p>1.3) That for student debt taken out before 2012, the report proposed to increase the cap of interest from 1.5% to 3.6%.</p> <p>1.4) That the cap on interest may even be scrapped altogether in order to make the loan book more profitable.</p> <p>1.5) This is an effective hike in student fees and a violation of previous agreements made with students.</p> <p>1.6) The widespread doubt that the terms of conditions of pre-existing loans will be secure once out of public ownership and in the hands of private financial institutions.</p> <p>1.7) That the Guardian newspaper estimates this will make student loans more expensive for 3.6 million people.</p> <p>1.8) That if the cap were removed, a graduate with £25,000 worth of debt taken out before 2012 who earns £25,000 a year could work until retirement without paying off their debt.</p> <p>1.9) That the Student Assembly Against Austerity, which this union supports, has organised actions across 26 universities in protest against the privatisation of student debt, in which a number of SOAS students have participated</p> <p>1.10) That there is an early day motion in parliament aimed at blocking the sell-off of</p>

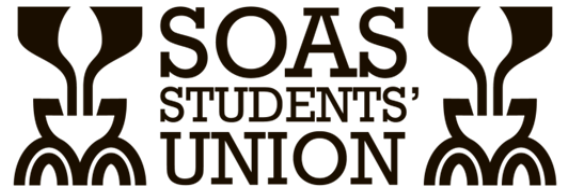
	student loans, which currently has 35 signatures.
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) The privatisation of student debt will almost certainly lead to higher student debts for all students who took out debts between 1998 and 2012.</p> <p>2.2) The privatisation of student debt is therefore wrong.</p> <p>2.3) This move is part of a wider attack by the coalition government, which is attempting to privatise education as a whole.</p> <p>2.4) Although there has been a denial by the government that the interest cap will be removed, it could still take place.</p> <p>2.5) Protests against the privatisation, organised by the Student Assembly against Austerity, have been of critical importance, and these should continue in order to give voice to the student body as a whole and to mobilise widespread opposition.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) To organize and fully participate in actions as part of the National Week of Action against the loan privatisation, called by the Student Assembly Against Austerity for the week commencing 3rd February 2014.</p> <p>3.2) To support all actions, protests and events against the privatisation of student debt.</p> <p>3.3) To write a formal letter to the local MP's asking them to sign the early day motion against the privatisation.</p> <p>3.4) Request a letter from SOAS management condemning the privatization of student debt.</p>



### Union General Meeting Motion

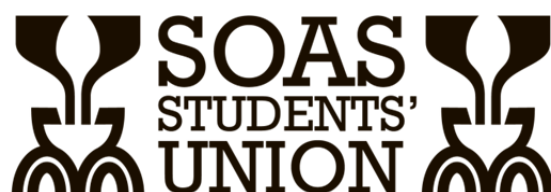
<b>Title:</b>	Protect Our Welfare Services
<b>Proposer:</b>	Mollie Hanley
<b>Seconder:</b>	Georgie Robertson
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 This year an NUS study reported one in five students experienced mental health problems during their time at university.</p> <p>1.2 The strain of studying, the rising cost of our education and the price of living in London means more students than ever need access to mental health support networks.</p> <p>1.3 Accessing mental health services through the NHS or non-profit organizations can be slow and frustrating at times when students are most vulnerable.</p> <p>1.4 SOAS has stopped paying Gower Street practice, which provided a GP service for ALL students within close proximity of the university, including medical advice, counseling and evidence in support of illness, at the cost of over £100,000 a year to the University.</p> <p>1.5 Due to a severe lack of funding there is a significant strain on Student Advice and Wellbeing, which is unable to provide services to support all SOAS students.</p> <p>1.6 Student Advice and Wellbeing were unsuccessful in their bid for funding to provide additional disability staffing, staffing for accommodation and finance advice and additional counselling hours.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1 That mental health is heavily stigmatized and often ignored or disregarded in the wider community. As a progressive institution, the Union, and SOAS as a whole, should work to promote a culture of openness around mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>2.2 That the university has a responsibility to ensure the wellbeing and needs of its students</p>

	<p>are met and they have easy access to support quickly and for free.</p> <p>2.3 That the University is failing in its responsibility to ensure students welfare, which SOAS pledges to do in its 2012 document 'Vision and Strategy for the 2016 Centennial and Beyond', promising to "work to ensure that the services, support and facilities we provide are fully geared towards students' needs".</p>
<p><b>This Union Resolves:</b></p>	<p>3.1 To fight to protect welfare services against austerity.</p> <p>3.2 To ensure that the money that was being paid to Gower Street be used to provide Student Advice and Wellbeing, or other services nearby, are available to effectively enable student wellbeing, without cost to individual students.</p> <p>3.3 To make the University's provision of free and adequate welfare services a priority campaign for the Students' Union.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Rearrange Union Office Space
<b>Proposer:</b>	Hannah Slydel
<b>Seconder:</b>	Abigail Dalby Bowler
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) That the SU office (G8) is a key space in connecting students to their full time sabbatical officers.</p> <p>1.2) That the office set up was changed in the summer of 2013, relocating members of staff to different offices.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) The SU office should be a space in which you can approach the Sabbatical staff to speak to them confidentially and consult them on matters relating to the union.</p> <p>2.2) At the moment, SOAS employees have an office with a connecting door to the Sabbaticals office, that is often open. This can be alienating to members of the student body, as when students address Sabbaticals, they may feel uncomfortable about the lack of privacy, or their conversation may be disrupted by SOAS staff of whom they did not choose to approach.</p> <p>2.3) No students should feel isolated or intimidated from entering G8 to speak to their representatives.</p> <p>2.4) Union space in room 394 should be utilised.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	3.1) Executive Committee to discuss office space.



### Union General Meeting Motion

<b>Title:</b>	Remove Geoffrey Howe's Honorary Fellowship
<b>Proposer:</b>	Tom King
<b>Secunder:</b>	Georgie Robertson
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) That Geoffrey Howe is an Honorary Fellow of SOAS</p> <p>1.2) That Howe is a Conservative politician who was the longest serving member of Thatcher's cabinet</p> <p>1.3) That, as Chancellor, Howe introduced sweeping reforms to liberalise the UK economy which underpin the erosion of workers' rights, pay and conditions, the destruction of our welfare state, and which are responsible for the extraordinary widening of inequality since the 1980s</p> <p>1.4) That, as Foreign Secretary, Howe opposed imposing sanctions on Apartheid South Africa</p> <p>1.5) That, in the 1980s, Howe advocated a policy of "managed decline" for Liverpool and the North East</p> <p>1.6) That Howe has consistently opposed extending LGBT rights whilst a member of the House of Commons and the House of Lords</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) That Geoffrey Howe is anathema to the values of SOAS community</p> <p>2.2) That were SOAS run in a democratic and accountable manner, which reflected the interests and values of staff and students, such inappropriate accolades would not be awarded</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) To call for Geoffrey Howe's Honorary Fellowship to be revoked</p> <p>3.2) To re-assert our commitment to 'Democratise SOAS' and to the campaign's demands</p> <p>3.3) To lobby the school for the establishment of a referendum system for granting honorary degrees and fellowships</p>

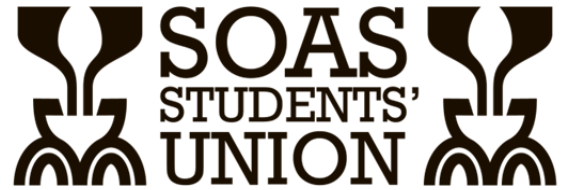


**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Repeal the Injunction on Protest at SOAS
<b>Proposer:</b>	Abigail Dalby Bowler 539486
<b>Secunder:</b>	Mollie Hanley 539420
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>(From the SOAS Comms Email dated 6/12/13:)</p> <p>1.1) On Wednesday 4 December, a group of students staged an occupation at Senate House and, following eviction by University of London security staff, five protesters were arrested.</p> <p>1.2) On Thursday afternoon at a 'Cops Off campus' rally the Metropolitan Police held a group near the Euston Square area. It has been confirmed by the police that 36 arrests were made and we understand that some students and a member of staff from SOAS were detained.</p> <p>1.3) Following the occupation at Senate House, the University of London sought and was granted an injunction and possession order which prohibits occupations as a form of protest within the buildings on the University of London campus. Both SOAS and Birkbeck buildings are included within the campus boundary and therefore are subject to the injunction order.</p> <p>1.4) However, SOAS continues to support peaceful and legitimate protests, freedom of speech and encourages dialogue to address student concerns. We will continue to work with all other parties involved to voice our concerns to the Metropolitan Police, to ensure the right to legitimate protest and the safety of our staff and students.</p> <p>SOAS Comms Email dated 10/12/13 signed by Paul Webley, Director and Graeme Appleby, Acting Registrar</p> <p>1.5) Following constructive discussions over the past two days with the University of London, both institutions are liaising with lawyers to seek to remove the injunction placed on SOAS</p>



	<p>buildings by the University of London as soon as possible.</p> <p>1.6) We have also sought legal guidance on how to challenge unreasonable bail conditions for any of our community who have been affected and have provided this information to the Students' Union and the School's HR directorate.</p>
<p><b>This Union Believes:</b></p>	<p>2.1) On the 4th of December a legitimate protest took place through the occupation of Senate House, the administrative headquarters of the University of London.</p> <p>2.2) As a result the UoL took out an injunction that covers SOAS buildings.</p> <p>2.3) From the email of the 10th December it was suggested that SOAS management would have this injunction lifted and would support the 'challenge (of) unreasonable bale conditions"</p> <p>2.4) Since the 10th of December SOAS management have not communicated that either of these actions have taken place</p>
<p><b>This Union Resolves:</b></p>	<p>3.1) That the SOAS SU Exec seek a meeting with the director and acting registrar to push for the implementation of their promises in their email of 10th December 2013, that SOAS will lift the injunction on its building and continue to support legitimate protest.</p> <p>3.2) That SOAS management offer legal advice to those students and staff who still face bail conditions as a result of their legitimate protest.</p> <p>3.3) That the SOAS SU keep the student body updated of any negotiations of meeting that they have with SOAS Management on the issue of the injunction through all school email.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Save ULU
<b>Proposer:</b>	Grace Wilcock
<b>Seconder:</b>	Tom King
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) The University of London Students' Union (ULU) is to be closed and its Malet Street building transferred out of democratic student control on 1st August 2014.</p> <p>1.2) Neither the panel or the review panel which recommended and upheld this decision contained any student representation from within ULU.</p> <p>1.3) That SOAS Director Paul Webley chaired the review of ULU which recommend it be closed down</p> <p>1.4) As a smaller UOL College, ULU provides clubs, activities and facilities to SOAS students that would otherwise be unavailable.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) That UOL students should have a union that enables them to co-ordinate clubs, activities, events and campaigns across all UOL colleges.</p> <p>2.2) The lack of student representation on the panels involved in the decision making process shows how illegitimate these attempts to close down our Union are</p> <p>2.3) That ULU is an integral part of the UOL experience which should not be removed because of management decisions that do not reflect the views of the students.</p> <p>2.4) That the closure of a Students' Union by university management sets a dangerous precedent for the right of students to collectively and democratically organise on campus</p> <p>2.5) That the closure of ULU is part of a wider marketisation of higher education in the UK</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) To support the Save ULU campaign</p> <p>3.2) To support efforts on campus to inform students about the closure, its consequences and to campaign against it</p> <p>3.3) To allocate some funding in order to publicise this campaign</p> <p>3.4) To demand that the Malet Street building remain a democratic student-run centre</p> <p>3.5) To support efforts to expand ULU to include</p>

	non-UOL HE and FE unions in London as constituent members
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**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	SOAS Fossil Free
<b>Proposer:</b>	Rupert Wilkinson
<b>Seconder:</b>	Luisa Hinze
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) SOAS has an ethical investment policy that requires “the avoidance of Companies that have not addressed allegations of breaches of human rights principles and International Labour Standards” and that “Any Companies held within the portfolio that are deemed to be unacceptable under SOAS’ ethical policy will be exited within six months.”</p> <p>1.2) Furthermore, SOAS’ guiding principles commit the university to “actively seek to embed good environmental practice at an institutional level and... demonstrate a firm commitment to reducing energy consumption.”</p> <p>1.3) This Union receives significant funding from SOAS, therefore this Union is directly implicated in SOAS’s investment choices and ethical policy.</p> <p>1.4) SOAS currently holds shares in oil and coal multinationals including Shell, BP and BHP Billiton. These companies face numerous allegations of human rights violations and thus directly contravene SOAS’ own ethical policies. There is also a contradiction between financially supporting the fossil fuel industry and our guiding principles committing us to improving environmental practice.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) That SOAS must follow its own ethical investment policy and guiding principles.</p> <p>2.2) Divestment campaigns such as those that targeted apartheid South Africa have a proven effectiveness and are now being used to target the fossil fuel industry. Divestment campaigns have recently sprung up at 20 UK universities, including Cambridge, Oxford and Edinburgh, along with numerous religious institutions and local governments.</p> <p>2.3) That the current SOAS policy endorses a future of greater environmental degradation, to which populations of the global south are particularly vulnerable. We believe that SOAS</p>

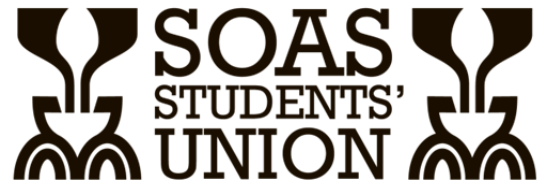
	should act responsibly to create a future that is safe for all of us and join these divestment campaigns in removing financial support from companies that extract fossil fuels.
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) Petition the SOAS Governing Body to divest from companies that extract, refine and distribute fossil fuels and to explicitly commit to investing in renewable energy.</p> <p>3.2) This union reaches out to those among us who are active members of other communities external to the University: those who have links to religious communities, those who have links to NGOs or charities. We ask you to take this message to them, explain our cause and encourage them to take part.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Solidarity with protestors in Egypt
<b>Proposer:</b>	Sai Englert 603915
<b>Seconder:</b>	Maham Hashmi-Khan 284059
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>This union notes with grave concern the far-reaching assault on human rights currently underway in Egypt, three years after the uprising which toppled Mubarak. According to Amnesty International the Egyptian military and security forces have killed around 1,400 people and detained thousands since July 2013. University campuses have been repeatedly invaded by riot police, who have shot dead students in an attempt to crush ongoing protests against the military regime. Over 500 students have been arrested since July 2013, and many have received harsh jail terms, some as long as 17 years. Egyptian human rights lawyers told Amnesty that many recent detainees were arrested arbitrarily as they attended university exams or went to collect study papers. Academics have also been targeted: large numbers of alleged supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood have been sacked or arrested.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>that there should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.immediate and unconditional release of those imprisoned for exercising rights to freedom of expression and of assembly;</li> <li>.repeal of Law 107 of 2013, restricting rights to public assembly;</li> <li>.independent investigation into state violence and criminality, including assaults on those exercising any of the rights and freedoms above;</li> <li>.an immediate end to trials of civilians in military and State Security courts</li> </ul>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	.to work with MENA Solidarity Network, other campus unions and student unions to establish a broad-based solidarity initiative to defend Egyptians under threat from the military regime

	<p>at the earliest possible time.</p> <p>.making a donation of £200 towards solidarity campaign expenses</p> <p>.inviting MENA Solidarity to propose a speaker on Egypt for our next meeting</p> <p>.circulating solidarity appeals and information about the campaign to our members and encouraging them to participate in solidarity action</p> <p>writing to the Egyptian authorities condemning the military repression</p> <p>.writing to the UK government calling for the immediate suspension of all financial, military or other support to the Egyptian authorities which may be used to violate the rights of Egyptian citizens. In particular, we demand immediate cessation of all sales and transfers to the Egyptian government of weapons, ammunition, vehicles, cyber-surveillance technology and other materials for use against those who exercise their right to protest.</p>
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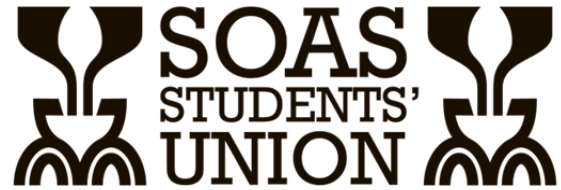
**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Support Justice for Cleaners Strike
<b>Proposer:</b>	Georgie Robertson 537687
<b>Secunder:</b>	Kabir Joshi 296327
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 The Justice For Cleaners campaign, started by the cleaners in 2006 to fight for improved terms and conditions and for the cleaners to be brought back in-house, has had widespread support among the student body, and SOAS community as a whole, and is a key Students' Union campaign.</p> <p>1.2 At the SOAS Governing Body meeting on the 4th July 2013, Governing Body failed to address the demands by the SOAS cleaners and the wishes of the SOAS community expressed by the Students' Union, UCU, and UNISON, and demonstrated by ballot in November 2012, in which 98% of the 1,294 staff and students who took part, voted 'yes' to the SOAS cleaners being brought in-house.</p> <p>1.3 That SOAS Governing Body voted on the 4th July to look into setting up a Shared Service between SOAS, Senate House, and Birkbeck, but have not guaranteed that this will involve improved terms and conditions for the cleaners.</p> <p>1.4 That SOAS switched off its heating during the winter holidays, forcing the cleaners to work in conditions below 13 degrees Celsius, which breaches the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, which place a legal obligation on employers to provide a "reasonable" temperature in the workplace.</p> <p>1.5 That the SOAS management have refused the cleaners continuous requests to meet and discuss their demands, forcing them to take strike action.</p> <p>1.6 That the cleaners are balloting to strike this term, and will not receive pay during their striking days.</p> <p>1.7 That the cleaners have suffered intimidation by ISS, who have tried to scare the cleaners into not going on strike by threatening to bring in other workers as strike breakers. Other threats were also made, such as reduced holiday days,</p>



	<p>and the loss of London Living Wage, but SOAS has committed to paying staff, including outsourced workers, LLW regardless of who manages outsourced contracts. The SOAS ISS manager has also been accused of individually intimidating cleaners by asking how they are going to vote in the ballot (a breach of the Secret Ballot Act) and encouraging temporary workers to not strike, saying they would benefit from the extra work on offer and may be favoured in the future.</p>
<p><b>This Union Believes:</b></p>	<p>2.1 It is outrageous that SOAS management ignores its cleaning staff, and SU, Unison and UCU demands and thus the wishes of the SOAS community, which highlights the gap between what is practiced and what is preached at SOAS, with the School's behaviour contradicting and undermining SOAS' identity as a progressive and critical institution that promotes values such as human rights and social justice, an ethos which the School itself adopts, for example in its '2020 Vision and Strategy for 2016 Centennial and Beyond'.</p> <p>2.2 That the actions of SOAS management have forced the cleaners to take strike action, and that the cleaners will require funds to cover the cost of living during their strike.</p> <p>2.3. That ISS' intimidation of the cleaners and their threats to call in strike breakers deny the cleaners their fundamental right to protest for fairer working conditions through industrial action, and that SOAS is responsible for allowing this to take place on its campus and would be complicit in allowing ISS to bring in strike-breakers.</p>
<p><b>This Union Resolves:</b></p>	<p>3.1 To fully support the cleaners strike, and to continue to support the Justice For Cleaners campaign as a key Students' Union campaign.</p> <p>3.2 To give £500 to the Justice For Cleaners society to enable the society to campaign to raise money for the cleaners strike fund, to cover the cost of living for the cleaners and their families during the strike days.</p> <p>3.3 To give the takings from the Students' Union bar from two evenings to the cleaners' strike fund.</p> <p>3.3 To continue to condemn ISS' intimidation of the cleaners, and SOAS management's role in permitting this unacceptable treatment of the cleaners on our campus.</p>

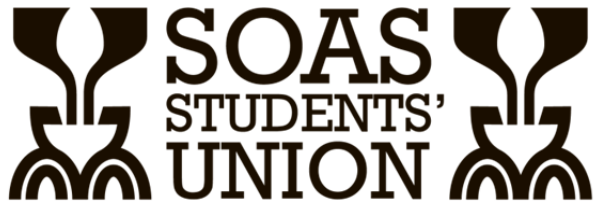
	3.4 To take action in support of the cleaners if strike-breakers are brought in, both against ISS and SOAS management, for their denial of the cleaners right to strike.
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**Union General Meeting Motion**

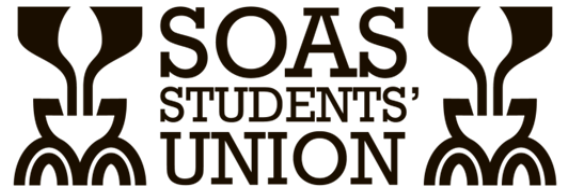
<b>Title:</b>	Support the Student Assembly Against Austerity
<b>Proposer:</b>	Georgie Robertson
<b>Seconder:</b>	Leah Edwards
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 That the Tory-Liberal government has unleashed the biggest assault on ordinary people for generations, and that the young generation are the first generation that will be less well-off than their parents.</p> <p>1.2 That young people are being forced out of education, students are being plunged into poverty, and cuts to, and the privatisation of, our colleges and universities is having devastating impact on education.</p> <p>1.3 That further attacks on students are in the pipeline, with the introduction of fees and loans to adult learners in further education this autumn and the government discussing plans to privatize the student loan book - allowing private companies to make huge profits out of our enormous debts.</p> <p>1.4 That following the People's Assembly Against Austerity, a broad and diverse coalition of student leaders have called the Student Assembly Against Austerity on Saturday 2 November 2013 which will take place at the University College London.</p> <p>1.5 That the Student Assembly Against Austerity aims to bring together all students who want to stop the cuts and the devastation they are bringing to millions of people in Britain, and to launch the next steps in the fight-back.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1 That the government's austerity programme is to the detriment of our education, transforming universities into businesses, and students into consumers, resulting in the marketisation of our education and hugely diminishing its quality.</p> <p>2.2 That the government's austerity programme</p>

	<p>is to the detriment of our society, making ordinary people pay for a crisis they did not create, massively increasing levels of inequality, and disproportionately affecting women, black and minority peoples, lgbtq peoples, and the disabled.</p> <p>2.3 That we must resist this injustice with all our might.</p> <p>2.4 That the Students Assembly Against Austerity will provide a forum for discussion among the many anti-austerity campaigners about how to defeat austerity, and could be a platform from which the next steps of the fight-back are launched.</p>
<p><b>This Union Resolves:</b></p>	<p>3.1 To support the Student Assembly Against Austerity taking place on Saturday 2 November at the University College London.</p> <p>3.2 To send a delegation of SOAS students to the Student Assembly Against Austerity.</p> <p>3.3 To make a donation of £100 to the Student Assembly Against Austerity.</p>



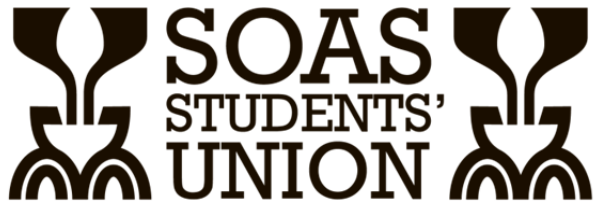
**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Support Tube Strike
<b>Proposer:</b>	Tom King 349872
<b>Seconder:</b>	Georgina Robertson 537687
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1 that Tory mayor Boris Johnson's 'modernisation' plans for the tube could lead to 750 job cuts and the closure of every ticket office</p> <p>2 that in the 2008 election campaign Boris Johnson said not a single ticket office would close while he was mayor</p> <p>3 that since he became mayor in 2008 ticket prices have gone up faster than inflation and that London has the highest public transport fares in the world</p> <p>4 that trade unions RMT and TSSA have called two 48 hour strikes to oppose the plans</p> <p>5 that the substantial disruption caused by tube strikes demonstrates how important these workers are to the functioning of our city</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>1 that Johnson's 'modernisation' plan is about cutting costs and the quality of service while charging passengers even more</p> <p>2 that cutting the number of station staff will make travelling more difficult for vulnerable people and presents a threat to their independent living</p> <p>3 that fewer station staff will put passengers at greater risk of crime, particularly violent and sexual assault</p> <p>4 that closing ticket offices will make it harder for students to access the student Oyster card discounts</p> <p>5 that tube workers perform a vital public service for London and that this should be valued more highly</p> <p>6 that the mayor should be using TfL's substantial surplus to cut fares and increase wages</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>1) to write a message of support to RMT and TSSA</p> <p>2 to encourage our members to respect tube workers' picket lines.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	Therapeutic lights for the student union
<b>Proposer:</b>	Fanny Malinen
<b>Secunder:</b>	Leah Edwards
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1) That SAD (Seasonal affective disorder) affects the well-being of many inhabitants in countries with dark winters.</p> <p>1.2) That the UK is such a country and a significant part of our term time is in the wintertime.</p> <p>1.3) That many people suffering from SAD benefit from light therapy.</p> <p>1.4) That living in temporary accommodation or on low incomes, many students cannot buy themselves therapeutic lights.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1) That students' mental health is a priority, and taking care of it should be enabled and encouraged.</p> <p>2.2) That one way the Student Union can help is to have a light box more accessible than the one in Student Services, 3rd floor Vernon square.</p>
<b>This Union Resolves:</b>	<p>3.1) To buy two therapeutic lights that all students can use.</p> <p>3.2) To set them, one each, in the JCR and in the Vernon square common room with clear and adequate instructions of use.</p>



**Union General Meeting Motion**

<b>Title:</b>	We Heart Consent
<b>Proposer:</b>	Mollie Hanley 539420
<b>Secunder:</b>	Rosie Hayes 278100
<b>This Union Notes:</b>	<p>1.1 Sexual consent refers to the agreement to participate in sexual activity.</p> <p>1.2 Consent is not a fundamental aspect of mainstream sex and relationship education in the UK. A survey from the National Children's Bureau says "Almost a third of young people said they did not learn about sexual consent in sex education lessons", "Rape culture" is a term used to describe the normalisation and tolerance of sexual assault in a society.</p> <p>1.3 There have been several incidents involving sexual assault and rape culture promotion in Universities around the country that have led to many university campuses being associated with rape culture.</p> <p>1.4 This Union has a Zero Tolerance policy against sexual harassment</p> <p>1.5 University of London Union has launched an "I Heart Consent campaign" with materials that have been endorsed by the NUS and used as an outline for consent campaigns at various universities.</p>
<b>This Union Believes:</b>	<p>2.1 In the UK sexual and relationship education is not standardised or consistent and is overall of very poor quality.</p> <p>2.2 Consent is necessary requirement in all sexual activity and should be vital part of mainstream sex and relationship education.</p> <p>2.3 One of the consequences of the absence of sexual consent education is that the message of consent is not communicated as an essential part of all sexual interactions.</p>

	<p>2.4 Rape culture is not welcome at this university and all students and staff should be free from the threat of sexual harassment and assault.</p> <p>2.5 Sexual consent education should be part of university and union orientation.</p> <p>2.6 We should have a LGBTQIA-inclusive approach to sexual consent education which also defies gender role assumptions.</p> <p>2.7 It's important that sports clubs and societies promote a positive consent culture within their membership, just as the union should also.</p>
<p><b>This Union Resolves:</b></p>	<p>3.1 That the Union should take part in the "I Heart Consent" campaign.</p> <p>3.2 That the Union to work with university to include consent education in Fresher/Welcome Week orientation.</p> <p>3.3 To support the call for compulsory sex &amp; relationship education in schools.</p> <p>3.4 That sports clubs and societies are encouraged to take part.</p>