

# Societies, we've got your back!

Dan Bocharnikov

## SU Notes

- That societies are a valued part of Edge Hill Students' Union.
- With the current model, a society can accumulate a large debt bringing Edge Hill Students' Union, and Edge Hill University as a whole, into disrepute.

## SU Believes

- That we recognise society achievements, where possible, and share the success with the wider student body.
- Whilst we are encouraging increased engagement, we must recognise that this increases risk of gaps in support. All society committee members should have training with regard to contractual agreements.
- All society members should be supported against debt claims and no student should feel obliged to fulfil a contract that they have not personally agreed to.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should not have to cover costs incurred through society failure to fulfil contractual agreements. EHSU should instead look at a proactive approach rather than a reactive one. This change would further prevent reductions in an already small Campaigns & Projects Budget.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should provide the most up to date information on "active" societies

## SU Resolves

- A combined approach with the university enrolment and degree completion contracts could help prevent "rogue" societies, that act as a group within the Students' Union, ignoring their contractual obligations.
- We will run support sessions for societies' constitutions and work with society groups to have these documents completed by semester 2, 2019.
- All contractual agreements within societies will have to have Edge Hill Students' Union agreement prior to being put in place.
- Edge Hill Students' Union will seek university advice where appropriate, further helping reduce the chance of negative impact on contracts linked to university courses, and university work in general.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should review all society funding and support documents to ensure that all information provided is up to date & relevant.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should work with students to define an "Active" society & the method of how we support/ maintain the most current record.

# Plastic Free Edge Hill University

Dan Bocharnikov

## Notes

- There is more microplastic in the ocean than there are stars in the Milky Way. <sup>[1]</sup>
- If plastic production isn't curbed, plastic pollution will outweigh fish pound for pound by 2050. <sup>[2]</sup>
- Edge Hill University are ranked 106 on the people & planet league, falling short of achieving a status as a leading sustainable university.
- Virtually every piece of plastic that was ever made still exists in some shape or form (except for the small amount that has been incinerated). <sup>[3]</sup>
- Over 400 students have already signed a single-use plastic free Edge Hill University Pledge showing their solidarity to the cause.
- 85% of students said that they would pay slightly more for environmentally friendly cups/ cutlery. <sup>[4]</sup>
- 73% of students agreed that it would be a good idea that the government tax single-use plastics. <sup>[4]</sup>

## Beliefs

- Edge Hill Students' Union should lead by example by eliminating single-use plastic items across all its departments, where alternatives are available. E.g. non-biodegradable plastic cups within the bar.

## Resolves

- That Edge Hill Students' Union should be lobbying Edge Hill University to swap out all single-use plastics, where viable alternatives are available.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should lobby franchises to swap out single-use plastic items where alternatives are possible. Exceptions may occur where franchise agreements restrict Edge Hill Students' Union to only using their products (e.g. Plastic bags & straws in Subway).
- Edge Hill Students' Union should eliminate single-use plastic items across all its departments, where alternatives are available. E.g. non-biodegradable plastic cups within the bar.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should use only environmentally sourced materials within Give It a Go programme.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should promote the reduction of single-use plastics among students.
- Edge Hill Students' Union will carry out an accessibility assessment when removing packaged/ plastic items.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should lobby local MPs to reach out at a national level.
- Edge Hill Students' Union should consider sustainability when creating NUS Totum partnerships and promote environmental sustainability among all NUS Totum partnerships.

## References

[1] United Nations, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2017/02/552052-turn-tide-plastic-urges-un-microplastics-seas-now-outnumber-stars-our-galaxy#.WLA81BLyvBJ>

[2] World Economic Forum Report,  
[http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_The\\_New\\_Plastics\\_Economy.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_The_New_Plastics_Economy.pdf)

[3] Science Advances, <http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/3/7/e1700782>

[4] Based on survey with ~150 Edge Hill University Students.

# **Better Acknowledgement of Formal Commendations for EHSU Elected Officers**

## **Proposed by:**

MAX BEATON, Trans & Non Binary Officer

## **Edge Hill Students' Union Notes**

- Members of the student population have expressed that there isn't enough recognition for work completed by the Union's Elected Officers.
- The student population may not be fully aware of the work that goes into campaigns that Elected Officers run.

## **Edge Hill Students' Union Believes**

- Acknowledgement of the work Elected Officers carry out would encourage more of the student population to get involved with the Students' Union – specifically voting – as they would be more aware of the work that goes on.
- It will increase visibility for the work that the Students' Union is doing.
- It will allow the student population to decide whether or not the Elected Officers have successfully completed their manifesto pledges.

## **Edge Hill Students' Union Resolves**

For Commendations that are passed on official committees, to be recognised and publicised on the official EHSU media outlets – i.e. Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter