

## **'Fund Our Societies' Motion**

Proposer: Jason Wong

Seconded by: Hannah Richmond

Supported by the following 13 LSE SU societies: Agents of Change, Alternative Investment, Baltic, Dare To Think, Economics, Energy, Entrepreneurs, Hayek, Malaysian, Hellenic, Social Entrepreneurship, USA.

In light of the increase in the Athletics Union's funding by 15% to £100,000, we believe societies at LSE deserve equal treatment and should be funded too. Societies at LSE play a crucial role in promoting both social, recreational and career opportunities and are no less important than the AU.

Our proposal would make available £15,000 for the purpose of funding SU societies, as below:

- **£5.5k to double existing STARS prize award money, to benefit around 60 societies** and to remove existing restrictions allowing societies to determine how they wish to spend their prize money
- **£6.5k to provide free printing and web development support** for all societies
- **£3k funding available for new societies** (est. £100 per society), estimated to benefit around 30 societies that are founded each year

The proposed £15,000 in society funding accounts for 15% of the AU's £100,000 funding and less than 0.05% of the School's £30.6 surplus. This is not only reasonable and affordable but would provide much needed support to vitalise and encourage small and medium sized societies as well as new societies, in particular those unrelated to banking who find it hard to attract large corporate sponsors.

### *This Union Notes:*

- Societies access to Student Union funding is currently limited to £36k available from the Activities Committee fund which is shared with the Athletics Union
- Societies currently receive no direct funding or financial support from the Student Union and have to depend on schemes such as the Annual Fund which has many limitations and no guarantees
- Societies unrelated to banking or careers find it difficult to attract corporate sponsors
- Societies, especially new, small and medium sized ones could benefit from additional and more direct forms of financial support from the Students Union

### *This Union Believes:*

- Societies at LSE play a crucial role in promoting both social, recreational and career opportunities. They are no less important than the Athletics' Union and deserve to be funded too.

- Any additional society funding should come from a viable and sustainable source and should not come at the expense of existing club or society funding

*This Union Resolves:*

- The Students Union executive is mandated to pursue making available £15,000 for the purpose of funding SU societies, effective as immediate as possible, as below:
- £5.5k to double existing STARS prize award money, to benefit around 60 societies and to remove existing restrictions allowing societies to determine how they wish to spend their prize money
- £6.5k to provide free printing and web development support for all societies
- £3k funding available for new societies (est. £100 per society), estimated to benefit around 30 societies that are founded each year

**Passed 21.2.2014**

**338 votes for**

**26 against**

**7 undecided**