



## **Byelaw 6**

### Liberation & Section Forums

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#### **1. Role and General Arrangements**

##### 1.1. Role

- 1.1.1. To promote the views and interests of, and organise activities and campaigns for, specific sections of the Members of the Students' Union.

#### **2. General Meetings**

- 2.1. All Forums shall convene an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and may convene other General Meetings as deemed appropriate by the Forum members.
- 2.2. All members of the Students' Union identifying and/or belonging to the relevant Forum shall be eligible to fully participate in General Meetings, which shall be convened in accordance with clause 2 of this Byelaw.

#### **3. Development Plan**

- 3.1. All Forums shall produce a Development Plan to be submitted to Student officers and Staff lead within the first term of the academic year.
- 3.2. The Development Plan shall outline:
  - 3.2.1. The Forum's role, objectives and elected membership.
  - 3.2.2. Provisionally planned activities for the academic year ahead.
  - 3.2.3. All Forums shall produce a report on their work at by the end of the academic year.

#### **4. Forum Rules**

- 4.1. All Forums shall operate in accordance with the Constitution, Bye-laws, and policy of the Students' Union.
- 4.2. Members of the Forum must maintain the confidentiality of all members protected by such regulations as may be recommended by the Students' Union.

#### **5. Elections**

- 5.1. Any member of the Students' Union belonging to the relevant group represented by the Forum may stand and vote for an elected position within a Forum.
- 5.2. It is within the prerogative of the Forums to decide the manner of which they elect their elected positions, granted they are in accordance with the Constitution, Byelaws and Policies of the Students' Union.
- 5.3. This may include an election during an Annual General Meeting, or an online ballot run by the Students' Union.
- 5.4. All Forums are required to invite at least one Elected Student Officer to be present in-attendance for the election of new Forum members during an election at an AGM.
- 5.5. Notice of the election shall be published 7 days in advance and promoted prominently in the Students' Union Building and in any regular publication of the Students' Union and the Forums' social media platforms stating that all members of the Students' Union of the relevant group may vote and stand for a position.
- 5.6. The AGM shall be held prior to the end of term at the latest Week 40.
- 5.7. Each Forum Convener shall be responsible for ensuring both election and voting are conducted in an inclusive and fair manner.
- 5.8. Each Forum Convener shall be responsible for engaging with the Students' Union to ensure the election is advertised appropriately and that students can access the election.
- 5.9. In the case of a Forum not having a Convener, the duties will be up to another member with support from the relevant Elected Student Officer.

## **6. Liberation Network**

- 6.1. The Liberation Network shall consist of all Forum members and Vice President Welfare and Vice President Communities and Staff lead.
- 6.2. The Liberation Network shall be responsible for approving affiliations of any new forums.
- 6.3. The Liberation Network shall be a platform for members of the Liberation and Sections Forums to meet with the Elected Student Officers regularly and discuss current and otherwise relevant issues.
- 6.4. This shall provide direction for the work of Elected Student Officers and collaboration between the Forums and the Elected Student Officers.
- 6.5. The Elected Student Officers shall provide updates to the Liberation and Section Forums on their work and on policies relevant to the attendees.
- 6.6. The Liberation Network shall meet at minimum once every 8 weeks.

## **7. Membership**

- 7.1. Membership of each forum shall be as detailed below,
- 7.2. The Forum Committee will consist of at least:

7.2.1. One Convener

7.2.1.1. Shall chair all meetings and be spokesperson for the Forum.

7.2.1.2. Shall attend Student Council.

7.2.1.3. Shall be responsible to Students' Union Council for the work of the Forum.

7.2.2. One Secretary

7.2.2.1. Shall be responsible for all matters relating to the organisation of meetings.

7.2.3. One Treasurer

7.2.4. One Liaison Officer

7.2.4.1. Shall be responsible for liaising with other groups on campus such as, but not limited to, other Forums, Societies, and staff networks to organise collaborative projects for the benefit of both groups.

7.3. Each Forum shall be responsible for deciding which elected positions will make up their respective Forum.

7.4. Each elected Forum position available will need to be decided on prior to start of a Forum Election.

7.5. Other Officers may be elected by the Forum AGM, or from within the Forum, to undertake specific duties.

## **8. Current Forums**

8.1. Current Forums that are recognised at the time of this bye-laws approval are listed on the AUSA website