

Free Education & Living Grants For All

This MCR notes:

1. That George Osborne has announced plans to scrap maintenance grants for low income students in September 2016
2. That Osborne has also announced that tuition fees will be set to rise above £9000 from 2017-18
3. That the National Campaign Against Fees and Cuts (NCAFC) have called a national demo in London on November 4th against these cuts and for a free education
4. That this demo is being supported by the NUS national executive committee
5. That a full risk assessment of the demonstration is being undertaken by the NUS
6. Last year, OUSU Council voted to support the NUS campaign for free education and put £300 toward the cost of a coach to the national demonstration.
7. This year, OUSU Council passed a condemnation of the plans to scrap maintenance grants

This MCR believes:

1. That education is a social good
2. That nobody should be denied access to that social good
3. That living in poverty is a direct denial of access to that social good
4. That living grants provide an important way to lift students out of poverty and should be maintained and made available to all students
5. That cuts to these grants will disproportionately affect marginalised groups, in particular students from working class backgrounds and students with disabilities, for whom the grants are a lifeline
6. That free education is a social rather than corporate endeavour
7. That we should resist any attempts to further marketise our education system

This MCR resolves:

1. To put up to £75 toward the cost of the coaches, which are set to be organised by OUSU upon the passing of a similar motion to this one in OUSU