

## Support for Student Leaders

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**This Union Notes:**

1. The co-curricular opportunities that the students' Union offer for students provide opportunities for students to develop their skills.
2. For many City University London students coming to university is the first time they have lived or worked independently and is the first opportunity to develop their skills and take part in activities that can improve their employment opportunities and challenge them.
3. There are 70 societies, which means approximately 200 society leaders, 6 media editors, 10 part time officers
4. Many of the activities and opportunities we provide at the Students' Union require news skills and can be challenging for those taking part.
5. When students take an active part in the Students' Union additional responsibility and commitment on top of their studies, which requires organisation.

**This Union Believes:**

1. Offering these opportunities is vital for the Students' Union to develop students into leaders and encourage enthusiasm and belief in the Students' Union.
2. Currently students who engage with societies, student media, raising and giving or become part time officers or programme reps do not feel they are provided sufficient training and skill set for the roles they take on.

3. The students' Union often go to lengths to encourage students to take on these responsibilities without informing them of the challenges they will face and the lack of support available from the Students' Union.
4. Because of this students often feel like the students' union is working against them rather than championing and supporting them.
5. Current students often call the union too bureaucratic. Students often don't understand
6. Current students feel there is a lack of structure within the union in terms of who to engage with, often students get referred to someone else, as the roles and responsibilities of staff are not clear or well defined.
7. Current students do not feel they have a space in the Students' Union building to meet or to organise.
8. To summarise students do not feel the Students' Union and Students' Union activities and opportunities are accessible.

### **The Union Resolves:**

1. To look at the students Union regulations and processes to ensure that they are not holding back students from taking part in these activities.
2. To look at the Students' Union regulations and processes to ensure that students feel supported and informed throughout their time engaged in the students Union.
3. To offer training to Students' Union staff so they have the tools to support students not only in the processes but also in personal development and welfare.
4. To note this as an issue in the membership and governance services review, where appropriate.

5. When students' start in the process that staff have meetings specifically for pastoral support, including personal development and welfare, ensuring that they feel prepared to take on the responsibility.
6. When students sign up for positions they are given further information about the infrastructure of the Students' Union, making sure they have a key staff contact.
7. Make it clear in information given the difference between elected officers and staff.
8. Offer a small space where student leaders can meet to organise and co-ordinate.
9. To be more transparent about the infrastructure and workings of the Students' Union