

R. 18-1 Motion to Lobby the University of St Andrews for Equal Access to Education for Forced Migrants.

Owner: Tashi Tahir

In Effect From: Immediately

Review Date: 06 November, 2018

This Council Notes:

1. According to Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights "Everyone has the right to education... and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit".
2. The term refugee applies to any person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, or membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country.
3. An asylum seeker is someone who has lodged an application for protection on the basis of the 1951 UN Refugee Convention.
4. Asylum seekers are: not allowed to take out student loans; not allowed to apply for grants and bursaries; unable to study in another country; denied the right to work in the UK and provided with just £36 per week to cover all their living expenses. It is not unusual for asylum seekers to be required to wait like this for years while a decision is made as to whether they can stay in the UK.
5. Officially, current university policy on asylum seekers living in the UK at University of St Andrews is to classify them as international students and there is currently no funding and scholarships in place to cover their tuition and living costs.
6. A number of UK universities have amended their admissions policies to allow asylum seekers to pay 'home' tuition fees, or have waived fees entirely. These include: King's College London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, LSE, and around 72 other universities around the UK.
7. 229 students, in one day, have signed a petition at St Andrews supporting equal access to university for students seeking refugee protection as part of the Equal Access campaign.
8. The Equal Access campaign is supported by the National Union of Students (NUS) and also has the backing of our local MP for North East Fife, Stephen Gethins.
9. The experiences and insights of students seeking refugee protection have the potential to greatly enrich the intellectual and social life of the university.

This Council Believes:

9. The University should adopt a fair and equitable approach in providing access to higher education on the basis of merit for asylum seekers, people granted discretionary leave to remain or humanitarian protection.

This Council Resolves:

10. To support the Equal Access campaign and work closely with RASA to create a campaign specific to our institution.

11. To lobby the university to remove financial barriers preventing students seeking refugee protection from studying here. Specifically to:

a) Classify all those seeking asylum **in the UK** as home students

b) Offer at least 5 bursaries and scholarships to meet study and maintenance costs

c) Publicise their Equal Access policies so that potential students are encouraged to apply

12. For the **representatives of the SRC** to request a meeting between the Vice Chancellor and representatives from RASA to discuss how this can be achieved.

13. For the **SRC** to sign a letter to the Vice Chancellor to outline the benefits of providing equal access to higher education to this university, and to liaise with RASA in the creation of this letter.

Proposed by Petition

Appendix A: RASA Equal Access Petition Signatures ([see attached pdf](#))

STUDENTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>MATRIC NO</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Jiah Kim	JK231	170027795	<i>Jiah Kim</i>
Auguste Navickyte	an65	160020253	<i>Auguste Navickyte</i>
Wren Winters	lw93	170023246	<i>Wren Winters</i>
Ellie Black Black	enb2	140006091	<i>Ellie Black</i>
Megan Yap	my46	180010796	<i>Megan Yap</i>
Carmen Chen	cc319	170028374	<i>Carmen Chen</i>
Jewel Cha	jsjc	170028760	<i>Jewel Cha</i>
Layla Boshairah	lb278	180003717	<i>Layla Boshairah</i>
Joe Liew	joily	120027850	<i>Joe Liew</i>
Ngay Ly	lw12	170026171	<i>Ngay Ly</i>
Mohammed	msmsas	170028582	<i>Mohammed</i>
Beth	umb26	170007675	<i>Beth</i>
Emma Thompson	etb4	150006640	<i>Emma Thompson</i>
Gabby Romney	grd5	150020765	<i>Gabby Romney</i>
Kendrick Loo	khkl	15005079	<i>Kendrick Loo</i>
Tashi Tahir	tt33	140014028	<i>Tashi Tahir</i>
Abigail Mottur	am482	180011049	<i>Abigail Mottur</i>
Yee Moon	ymc2	180028471	<i>Yee Moon</i>
Beatrice Olivera	brmo	150025381	<i>Beatrice Olivera</i>
MARTI REDFORD	MRST33		MRedford
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Emily Steven	ERS20	180025192	<i>Emily Steven</i>
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non student

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Jaemin Kim	jk243	170028913	<i>Jaemin</i>
Anmar Abdulla	aena	160027033	<i>Anmar</i>



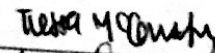
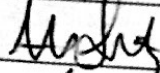
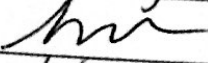
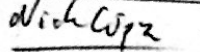
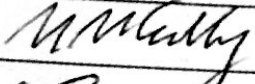
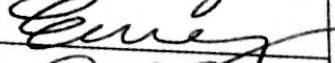

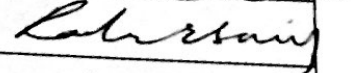

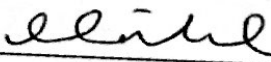
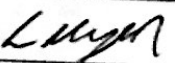
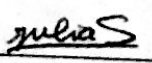
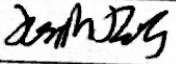
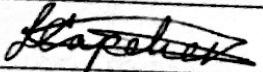
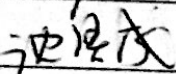
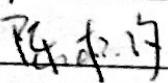
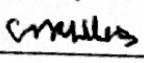
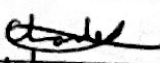
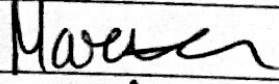
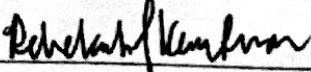
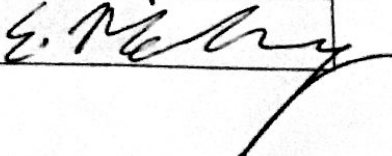
STUDENTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>MATRIC NO</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Elbuna Ardich	ea77	180008289	Bun Allen
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Kam McArthur	km273	150001461	K McAllister
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Taylor Cooperman	tc89	180029403	Taylor
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Beca Phillip	bjp26	140015378	Beca
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Nadine Anderson	na23	180005509	Nadine
Vineeth Joseph	vtj	160013772	Veejay
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Christina Nank	cdn2	180025956	C.N.
Sophia Staffiero	ss304	140001506	Sophia
Adwoah Twumasi	at245	150024387	Adwoah T.
Kamile Saldyke	ks239	150015775	Kamile

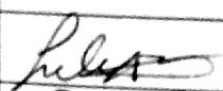


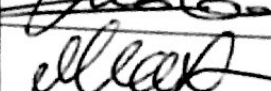
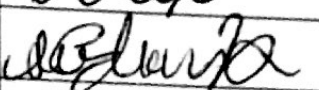
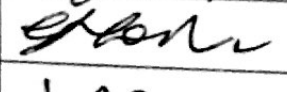
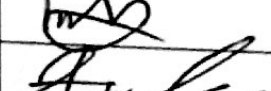
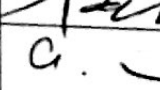
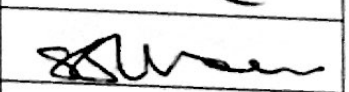
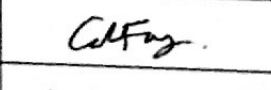

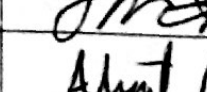
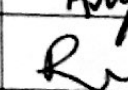
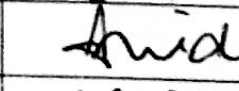


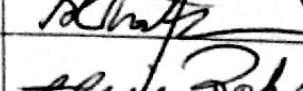
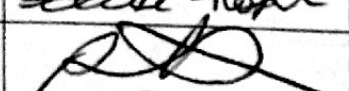
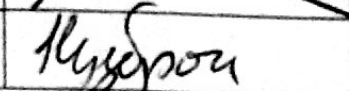
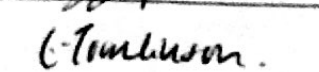


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John Bolton	jb36z	180022926	John Bolton
Eve Hervey	efh5	180024868	Eve Hervey
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Bradford Grossman	bs49	170009381	Bradford Grossman
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Cate O'Connor	ce04	180026032	
Rebecca 218cmj	riame	180032689	
Angela Athiasa	ba39	170011446	
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