

## **S. Motion to Include Bursary Scheme to the Union Debating Society (UDS) Constitution**

Owner: Toni Valencia  
In Effect From: Immediately  
Review Date: September 24, 2019

Proposer  
Toni Valencia – SSC Debates Officer

Seconders  
Tom Groves - SSC Broadcasting Officer  
Gavin Sandford - SSC Member Without Portfolio  
Markus Lee - SSC Societies Officer

### **It is noted that:**

1. The Union Debating Society currently has no bursary scheme to support transportation costs around the UK and international competitions.
2. The University of St. Andrews has a wide diversity of students, even in socio-economic backgrounds.
3. Transportation to competitions across the UK almost every weekend is quite expensive.
4. Worlds University Debating Championships (WUDC) and European University Debating Championships (EUDC) in the next coming years will be in very far locations, making flight costs expensive. For example, WUDC will be in Thailand in 2020 and South Korea in 2021. EUDC will be in Kazakhstan in 2020.
5. The Union Debating Society already covers registration fees and accommodation for all debaters in a competition. Therefore, we will only need a bursary scheme to cover transportation costs.

### **It is believed that:**

1. The Union Debating Society is a subcommittee of the Union and therefore should cater to as many students in the university as possible.
2. Some students may not be willing to even trial because of the unavailability of a bursary scheme for transportation costs. This is especially true as it is a requirement that anyone who trials to represent the university at WUDC and EUDC must be willing and able to pay for their transportation costs.

### **It is resolved to:**

1. Include the following as Section 11 to Chapter 14 of the Laws of the Association:

#### **11. Bursary Scheme and Financial Support**

11.1 The Union Debating Society is dedicated to ensuring that all students interested, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds, will be able to participate in at least one debate competition in the coming year. As such, the President and the

Treasurer should ensure that a bursary scheme is accessible to students coming from low-income backgrounds so that they may be given the opportunity to participate in debate competitions. The process should be made entirely confidential.

11.2 There will be two forms of bursary schemes: the local competition schemes and the international competition scheme. The requirements, application process and other details of the bursary scheme should be followed as outlined in “The Union Debating Society (UDS) Bursary Scheme” document.

11.3 Trials process and selection of representatives to participate in a debate competition are made entirely separately from the bursary scheme application process. As such, a student may be able to trial for a speaker or judge spot without prior knowledge of their acceptance to the bursary scheme.

Note: This is the UDS Bursary Scheme Document  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OT0Afq28R-VxOq-FIYVmj67Rn3f63mqKuyuSKf1rZLk/edit?usp=sharing>