

What is a motion?

If you want to shape the Union's views on any issue, the best way is to submit a motion. Your proposal will be debated at the Students' Union Assembly.

A campaign might involve pushing to influence senior College management, or force a wider change nationally or internationally. A motion - on the other hand - is a move to set the Union's position on a certain issue.

By accepting a motion, the Union might be stating where it stands on an issue, or committing itself to campaigning for change.

How to write a motion:

There is no compulsory style for motions. However, we recommend the format below to make motions clear, reduce confusion and increase their effectiveness.

Each motion should have a title and needs a short summary. You should break down what you want to say into clear paragraphs, and outline what you want the Union to do.

Every motion shall have a proposer and a seconder.

How to submit a motion:

1. All motions must be submitted at least 5 working days before the Assembly.
2. All amendments to motions must be submitted at least 24 hours before the Students' Union Assembly.
3. All motions should be submitted to the the Students' Union main email account, students.union@rca.ac.uk
4. The proposer shall have the right to sum up on the debate immediately before the vote is taken.

Other guidance:

1. Every member shall have the right (subject to a five minute guillotine on each debate and to the Chair's decision on priority in speaking) to speak once on each motion.
2. Motions shall require a simple majority except where otherwise specified in the constitution.
3. The quorum of the Students' Union Assembly shall constitute 50 current members eligible to vote.
4. If the Students' Union Assembly does not reach quorum, a formal vote cannot take place.
5. The Board of Trustees may override any decision or Policy made by the Student Members at a Students' Union meeting which the Trustees consider (in their absolute discretion):
 - Has or may have any financial implications for the Union
 - Is or may be in breach of, contrary to or otherwise inconsistent with charity or education law or any other legal requirements
 - Is not or may not be in the best interests of the Union or all or any of its charitable objectives
 - Will or may otherwise affect the discharge of any or all of the responsibilities of the Trustee Board: the governance of the Union, the budget of the Union, the strategy of the Union.