



## Our Ability but not our Money – Financial Assurances to International Students in Need

### What will we do?

1. To submit a motion to the NUS including the followings:
  - a. Conference Resolves:
    - i. To reaffirm that education to all students, regardless of where they are come, should not be treated as a business.
    - ii. To lobby universities and colleges to provide more accesses to scholarships and bursaries to international students.
    - iii. To urge the Scottish Government to provide tuition fee and living expense assurances to international students with financial difficulties.
    - iv. To set out a target of which 3% of international students should have accesses to Government's, universities' or colleges' assurances to address their financial difficulties by the time this motion lapses.
    - v. To facilitate, in a long term, an accessible ability-based education to international students.

### What is the background to this?

1. That International students are paying a substantially higher tuition fee when compared to local or EU students.
2. That the average tuition fee for international student in Scotland's further and higher education institutions is seven times higher than that of home or EU students (before Student Awards Agency Scotland Funding).
3. That, however, international students' accesses to financial supports (both in terms of scholarship and bursary) are strictly limited.
4. That, when compared to the average household incomes of popular origins of international students, university's tuition fee alone equals 32% (USA), 225% (China), 52% (Hong Kong) and 1130% (India) of the respective annual household incomes.
5. That the high tuition fee rate places huge financial burden on the families of international students.
6. That the high tuition fee rate blocks overseas elites from pursuing quality education in Scotland.
7. That the rate of offer made to international students is significantly higher than that made to local or EU students<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> In Edinburgh University, for example, offer rates of international students to home students in 2016 are as follows: business school (61%:9%), Economics (80%:18%), History (85%:28%), Law (51%:17%), Linguistics (77%:25%).



8. That the high tuition fee rate and the lack of financial support change the admission basis of international students from academic ability to financial ability.

## What beliefs motivate the actions you propose?

1. That education is a public good.
2. That it is inappropriate to treat the provision of education as a business.
3. That international student enjoys equality in opportunities in receiving education.
4. That allowing talented students from around the world to study in Scotland would benefit the local community and the sustainable development of Scotland as a centre of education.
5. That the education of global elites allows Scotland to pioneer world-changing ideas.
6. That the motive of generating profit from the provision of international education would undermine the quality of international students admitted.

**Submitted with 20 Student Signatures**