SocsFed Made Simple: Introducing Multi-Year Societies Federation and Increasing Financial Transparency

This Union Notes:

1. That to join Union Societies, an Undergraduate member must (currently) pay a statutory £19 per year and a Postgraduate member £10 per year for Societies Federation (herein SocsFed) membership.¹
2. That a multi-year SocsFed membership has been indirectly mandated over the last three years through the election of Societies Officers running on this platform.²
3. The drop off in membership between first and second year of Undergraduate study is at 44%.³
4. That therefore, this drop off results in a loss of £23,500 in revenue for the Union.⁴
5. That information on how and where the SocsFed fee is spent is not readily available to Union members.

This Union Believes:

1. That this drop off in membership of SocsFed is of detriment to both societies and the Union.
2. A discounted multiyear option should be available to students who wish to purchase it to reward prolonged society involvement and break down existing financial barriers.
3. It is of vital importance that the SU is transparent regarding where SocsFed money is spent and how it is allocated.

This Union Resolves:

1. That the Societies Officer is mandated to produce a feasibility paper to the Board of Trustees, outlining a workable multiyear model for the 2018/19 academic year.
2. That the Societies Officer must report to the Societies Exec and Societies Council on the progress of this project.
3. That the Societies Officer must consider how this will both benefit and hinder societies upon consultation with societies. This must be made apparent in the Board paper.
4. That the Societies Officer should produce a breakdown of where the SocsFed fee is spent, outlining how it benefits Union members and why the £19 figure is necessary.

Policy History

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² [https://www.warwicksu.com/societies](https://www.warwicksu.com/societies)
⁴ UG first years purchased 15/16 : 2808 (£53,352), UG second years purchased 15/16 & 16/17: 1566 (£29,754), data obtained through Union database.
⁵ Ibid.