

Policy name: Hydration Stations

Date Presented: 12/02/19

Lapse Date: May 2024

STUDENT COUNCIL NOTES:

Increasing the amount of "Hydration Stations", or water fountains, at Ulster would contribute to the university's wider sustainability and green impact strategy. We hope the introduction of more Hydration Stations would reducing usage of single-use plastic, by making it easier and more accessible for students to refill water bottles.

Drinking plenty of water is a staple of a healthy diet — increased access to drinking water facilities on campus would benefit both staff and students.

STUDENT COUNCIL BELIEVES:

Scientists have warned that humans face extinction in the next two generations, unless there is a concerted effort to slow climate change continues. Plastic pollution is one of the key contributors to climate change. As such, we believe the introduction of Hydration Stations will aide us in reducing the usage of single-use plastic at Ulster.

Sustainability is not only important for Ulster, this is a global issue. We, the students, have the responsibility and power to address environmental issues. We must make every effort to improve sustainability within the university and wider society and allow staff and students accesses to water to benefit their health.

The ability to access free water on campus, without the need for single-use plastic, should be made more visible and more accessible.



STUDENT COUNCIL RESOLVES:

- UUSU work with University to rebrand current water stations to “hydration stations” providing adequate signage for the location of water stations.
- UUSU lobby the University to identify locations where Hydration Stations could be installed on each campus.
- UUSU work with the University to encourage sale of reusable water bottles in the oncampus retail outlets.
- Lobby local councils for possibility of support by linking in with the reusable metal water bottle possibly reducing the cost of the bottle for students.

Name of Proposer: *Student Executive*

Name of Seconder: *Sarah McCartney*

Policy renewed on the 26th April 2023

