Policy name: Graduation Costs  
Date Presented: 26/11/19
Lapse date: December 2021

Student Council notes:

There is a cost to attend graduation and extra cost to purchase extra tickets for friends and family. This can be an expensive event and a barrier for students, and can inhibit those who simply can’t afford to attend their own graduation. UUSU and Ulster University have the responsibility to ensure that there are reduced barriers for students who are looking to participate. Graduation is a key date in the calendars of most students while studying at Ulster and every student should have the ability to easily access this experience.

Student Council believes:

That the cost of graduation should be cost neutral as a principle, and Ulster University should not financially benefit from an essential part of a student’s experience while studying at Ulster University. The current cost of graduation acts as a barrier for some students to be able to attend and should be a positive experience and a celebration for every student at Ulster University. Each year students do not attend specifically due to the costs relating to graduation.

Student Council resolves that:

- UUSU research’s into the average costs of attending graduation ceremonies across other universities in the U.K and Ireland.
- UUSU ensure that the cost of graduation is a non-profit exercise for Ulster university
- UUSU lobby the University to fund the costs of the graduation ceremony so that there is no cost for students.

Name of Proposer: UUSU Student Executive

Name of Seconder: Adam McBurney (B00728646)