

This Union Notes:

1. That multiple elected Sabbatical and Student Officers have received mandates to improve the provision of ethical, vegetarian and vegan food.¹
2. That the UN Environment Committee estimates that animal agriculture contributes 18% to greenhouse gas emissions measured in carbon dioxide equivalent². Other respected figures are much higher.³
3. That 56 billion large, sentient farm animals are killed every year just for food.⁴
4. That hundreds of billions of sea animals are also killed for food.⁵
5. That the world's most comprehensive study of nutrition, The China Study, concludes that for health one should "avoid" meat, dairy and eggs and "minimize" consumption of fish.⁶
6. That most people are against animal suffering⁷, yet great suffering is inflicted upon animals in the production of meat and dairy.⁸
7. That 44 percent of people in Britain either do not eat meat, have cut down on meat, or want to cut down on meat.⁹
8. That '[t]he findings from the China Study indicate that the lower the percentage of animal-based foods that are consumed, the greater the health benefits'.¹⁰

¹ For example, President 2016/17 and Environment and Ethics Officer 2015-16. Respective links:

<https://www.warwicksu.com/elections/manifesto/7358/> <https://www.warwicksu.com/elections/manifesto/7396/>

² United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, Livestock's Long Shadow, 2006, p. xxi. Available at:

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0701e/a0701e00.HTM>

³ <http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/study-claims-meat-creates-half-of-all-greenhouse-gases-1812909.html>

⁴ UN figure. Quoted at p. 2, Zoopolis, Will Kymlica and Sue Donaldson

⁵ Mood, A. & Brooke, P. 2012. Estimating the Number of Farmed Fish Killed in Global Aquaculture Each Year [Online]. Fish Count. Available: <http://fishcount.org.uk/published/std/fishcountstudy2.pdf>.

⁶ The China Study, T. Colin Campbell and Thomas M. Campbell, Dallas, Tx : BenBella, p. 243.

⁷ Painfully Aware: The Effects of Dissonance on Attitudes toward Factory Farming, Prunty, J;Apple, KJ, ANTHROZOOS; JUN, 2013, 26 2, p265-p278.

⁸ Singer, P. 1975. Animal liberation : a new ethics for our treatment of animals, London, Jonathan Cape, pp. 101-63,

Aaltola, E. 2012. Animal suffering : philosophy and culture, Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 34-45.

⁹ British Social Attitudes, 2016

¹⁰ The China Study, p. 242.

9. That whilst one-fifth of the world's human population lives in areas of water scarcity¹¹, animal agriculture water use ranges from 34-76 trillion gallons annually¹². 660 gallons of water are required to produce one beef burger¹³. Conversely, only 39 gallons are required for a pound of vegetables.¹⁴
10. That cattle grazing is responsible for 91% of the world's deforestation.¹⁵
11. That the WHO has confirmed that processed meat is a carcinogen, and is ranked alongside smoking and obesity in terms of damage to health.¹⁶
12. That 99 percent of meat consumed in the US comes from factory farms where animals are denied any semblance of a decent life, and are actively tortured and forced to suffer.¹⁷
13. That the University is committed to "promot[ing] a purchasing policy which favours those products and services which cause the least harm to the environment"¹⁸. Amongst other pledges, the University has also made a commitment to "provid[e] sustainability for the community and global society".¹⁹
14. That other Universities and colleges have gone much further than we suggest in this motion, by introducing Meat Free Mondays. These include the London School of Economics, Glasgow University, University College London (UCL) and colleges at the University of Oxford.²⁰
15. That given the progress made by the Union, in many cases, the Resolves simply codify existing practice.

¹¹ Human Development Report 2006. UNDP, 2006

¹² Pimentel, David, et al. "Water Resources: Agricultural And Environmental Issues." *BioScience* 54, no. 10 (2004):909-18.

¹³ "USDA ERS—Irrigation & Water Use." United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service 2013.

¹⁴ Mekonnen, M.M. and Hoekstra, A.Y. (2010) The green, blue and grey water footprint of farm animals and animal products, Value of Water Research Report Series, No. 48, UNESCO-IHE, Delft, the Netherlands.

¹⁵ Oppenlander, Richard A. *Food Choice and Sustainability: Why Buying Local, Eating Less Meat, and Taking Baby Steps Won't Work*. Minneapolis, MN :Langdon Street, 2013

¹⁶ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/health/news/11950018/Bacon-ham-and-sausages-as-big-a-cancer-threat-as-smoking-WHO-to-warn.html>

¹⁷ Farm Forward. Ending Factory Farming [Online]. Available: <https://farmforward.com/ending-factory-farming/> See also Singer, fn8.

¹⁸ <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/about/environment/warwick/policies>

¹⁹ Statement of values, 2016. Available at: <https://www2.warwick.ac.uk/about/strategy/values/> Accessed 25th April 2016.

²⁰ Statement of values, 2016. Available at: <https://www2.warwick.ac.uk/about/strategy/values/> Accessed 25th April 2016.

http://www.meatfreemondays.com/supporter_categories/universities/

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/estates/sustainability/guest/projects/food/currentprojects/>

This Union Believes:

1. That catering suitably for those who prefer low-footprint food can give a great business edge.
2. That this motion will increase choice for students and staff. Given many students have or want to reduce meat intake (see THN 7), and that meat-eaters can eat vegetarian food, it represents an overall increase in the choice available the average Warwick consumer.
3. That it falls to Universities such as ours, charities like our Union, and students including us, to help build a better world. That the student body want to make the world a better place.
4. That Warwick's Students' Union is committed to ethical sourcing of its food.
5. Raising awareness of the health benefits of plant-based food will benefit individuals and society.
6. That it is a grave injustice that, every time our hearts beat, 3,000 sentient farm animals are killed for food.

This Union Resolves:

1. To mandate the Democracy & Development Officer and Environment & Ethics Officer to develop and sustain an Ethical Eating Ethos indefinitely, which incorporates, where relevant, the subsequent resolves.

To mandate the Democracy & Development Officer and Environment & Ethics Officer to:

2. Work with the Food and Beverage Department to make sure that vegan variations of vegetarian dishes are offered, where dairy and eggs can be removed from vegetarian dishes. To indicate on the menu that a vegan variation is possible, as well as the original vegetarian option.
3. Place all vegan and vegetarian dishes at the top of each section of the menus in the SU food outlets, where feasible.
4. Ensure that at least one in three of the starters and one in three of the main courses available at Xananas and the Dirty Duck is vegetarian or vegan.
5. Ensure that information describing the Ethical Eats Ethos and what it entails is easily available in the food and beverage section of the SU website.
6. Liaise with Xananas, the Dirty Duck, the Bread Oven and Curiositea on the one hand, and relevant animal ethics and green societies on the other, to display information at all SU food outlets concerning the benefits of vegan and vegetarian foods. The information will provide inspiration to eat more vegan and vegetarian food, and sensitively-worded, informative facts.
7. Work with SU food outlets to provide more vegan dessert options.
8. Explore the possibility of a price incentive to encourage people to buy meat- and fish-free dishes in the SU's outlets.

To mandate the Students' Union to:

9. Run a campaign in conjunction with Veganuary each year to raise community awareness that the SU is now committed to this Ethical Eats Ethos.

Policy History		
<i>Action</i>	<i>Body</i>	<i>Date</i>
Carried	All Student Meeting	2015/16, T3W4
Amended and renewed	Student Council	2017/18, T3W4
Policy review	Student Council	2019/20, T3W4