

## Motion to Support the Mandatory Recording of All Lectures

**Proposed by:** Michaela Flegrova (Deputy President Education)

**Seconded by:** Ross Unwin (Deputy President Clubs and Societies), Shervin Sabeghi (Deputy President Welfare), Michael Urbanski (PGT AWO for Faculty of Engineering), Jaid Debrah (MSc Immunology Academic Representative), Jiaao Yu (MSc Environmental Technology Departmental Representative), Bruno da Rocha Paiva (JMC Academic Departmental Representative), Conor Kirby (MSc Mechanical Engineering Academic Representative), Codrin Cotarlan (Computing Academic Departmental Representative), Daniyar Ghani (RCSU Vice President Education), Anna Curran (MSc Applied Mathematics Rep)

### Union Notes

1. Under current College policy, it is not compulsory for staff members to record their lectures and make them available to students<sup>[1]</sup>
2. Under normal circumstances (i.e. before the COVID-19 pandemic) some lectures or whole lecture courses were not recorded, or the recordings were withheld from students
3. The College is currently developing a new Digital Education Recording Policy, which:
  - a. Has now entered the consultation stage, where all staff and students were invited to comment on the current version
  - b. In its current version states that "The College will provide recordings of the following Educational Activities to students on taught courses: lectures, seminars and symposiums"
  - c. Has been met with opposition from some staff members who believe recording lectures should not be mandatory
  - d. Is likely to have amendments made to it based on the result of the consultation before being approved by the Provost's Board in Term 2
4. Lecture recordings have been shown to be an effective way to support students with Specific Learning Difficulties<sup>[2]</sup>
5. There is evidence of a positive effect of lecture recordings on student outcomes<sup>[3]</sup>

### Union Believes

1. It is in the interest of students that lectures are recorded, and that the recordings are made available to them
2. Lecture recordings are a useful tool that improves students' ability to revise, complete their notes, or catch up on lectures missed due to illness
3. The university should strive to make teaching more accessible for students with Specific Learning Disabilities and other disabilities
4. Parity across departments is important and students in all departments should be provided with a similar level of support
5. Unless lecture recording is mandatory, students' access to lecture recordings for their courses will vary across the College
6. Recording all lectures, seminars and symposiums should be mandatory

### Union Resolves

1. To support the part of the new Digital Education Recording Policy which mandates the recording of all lectures, seminars and symposiums

2. To mandate the Deputy President (Education) to make representations to the College to  
this effect

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/administration-and-support-services/ict/public/Audio-and-video-lecture-recording-guidelines.pdf>

<sup>[2]</sup> Nightingale, Karl P et al., 2019. Developing the inclusive curriculum: Is supplementary lecture recording an effective approach in supporting students with Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs)? Computers and education, 130, pp.13–25.

<sup>[3]</sup> O’Callaghan, Frances V et al., 2017. The use of lecture recordings in higher education: A review of institutional, student, and lecturer issues. Education and information technologies, 22(1), pp.399–415.