Catering at Evening Meetings

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A motion to introduce free catering at Imperial College Union evening meetings for all those attending evening meetings of Union Council and its subcommittees.

Union Notes:

- The vast majority of Union Council and Council subcommittee meetings, including but not limited to Clubs, Societies & Projects Board, Community & Welfare Board and Education & Representation Board, are scheduled to start at 18:00 or 18:30 (Imperial College Union, 2018).
- 2. The hours during which such meetings take place are the most common and a reasonable time for one to consume their daily evening meal (Barrow, 2013).
- 3. Under normal conditions, teaching at Imperial ends at 18:00 each day (Eastwood, 2012).
- 4. Eating too quickly can cause indigestion (WebMD, 2017; Downey, 2017) and other potential health problems (Dillner, 2017; Downey, 2017).

Union Believes:

- 1. Catering outlets, such as FiveSixEight, the Library Cafe and h-bar, as well as shops, like Essentials and the Union Shop Extra, charge a convenience premium on prepared food and the cost is much more than consuming a self-prepared evening meal at home.
- Volunteers attending Council and other committee meetings should not incur extra financial
 costs in order to attend and represent students at meetings lasting a couple of hours or
 more.
- 3. Most people attending these meetings are full-time students who have tight financial budgets, due to the fact that they are full-time students (Butler, 2017; Department for Education (United Kingdom), 2018, pp. 17-19).
- 4. Students who have lectures ending at 18:00 have very little time to source and consume food, and then travel to the meeting venue in time for its scheduled start time.

Union Resolves:

- Make food available to all attendees of evening meetings of Union Council and its subcommittees, either during the break (if there is one) or before the beginning of the meeting.
- 2. Make light refreshments, for example, tea, coffee, biscuits, or canapés, available to all attendees of evening meetings of Union Council and its subcommittees.

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