



Fossil Free Careers

As a result of debate and vote at Union Assembly, LUSU support for the aims of the petition and campaign was approved by Union Assembly on 13th May 2025. This is the contents of the motion:

This SU notes:

1. That the operations of the oil, gas and mining industries¹ cause immense environmental harm, by accelerating the climate and ecological crisis², polluting the water³ and permanently destroying landscapes.⁴
2. That these extractive operations also cause direct social harm, by displacing people from their homes and lands,⁵ destroying livelihoods,⁶ demolishing sacred indigenous sites,⁷ and leaving workers and communities with severe health problems.⁸
3. That graduates are increasingly turning away from the oil and gas sector. A 2017 study showed the number of graduates taking jobs in the industry had dropped by 60% in four years.⁹
4. That young people see oil and gas as the most unappealing sector to work in.¹⁰ They associate it with responsibility for the climate crisis and believe there is no future for jobs in the industry.¹¹
5. The University Careers Service does not have a publicly accessible policy that excludes the promotion of careers in the oil, gas and mining industry through its website, careers fairs, emails to the student body and other recruitment events.
6. That 11 UK universities have now taken the step to exclude the oil, gas, and mining industries from all recruitment activity.¹² A further 20% of all UK universities have made similar exclusions for other industries, including the tobacco, sex, and gambling industries.
7. The university declared a climate emergency in 2020 and acknowledges “it is the responsibility of our whole university community to embed sustainability into all areas of university life.”¹³
8. That 131 students and 7 staff have signed a petition calling for the University Career Department to cut all ties with the oil, gas and mining industry.

This SU believes:

1. Inviting oil, gas, and mining companies to advertise with the careers service adds legitimacy to the idea that these companies are an acceptable part of our society and our future.
2. The University Careers Service should ensure that its recruitment activities and events are in line with the university's publicly stated sustainability goals and responsibility to embed sustainability in all areas of university life.

3. The university's careers service has a responsibility to its students to promote jobs with a future.
4. Ending this university's complicity in career pipelines into the oil, gas, and mining industry is an effective method of showing solidarity with communities affected by these companies' operations.

This SU resolves:

1. To publicly support the Fossil Free Careers campaign,¹⁴ and demands that our university career's department:
 - a. Refuses all new relationships with oil, gas or mining companies.
 - b. Declines to renew any current relationships with oil, gas or mining companies after the contractually obligated period ends.
 - c. Adopts a publicly available Ethical Careers Policy that explicitly excludes oil, gas and mining companies from recruitment opportunities.
2. To mandate the relevant full-time and part-time officer(s) to actively work with the Fossil Free Careers campaign group and People & Planet to ensure that Union work is linked up with grassroots campaigners.
3. To mandate the relevant full-time and part-time officer(s) to help set up meetings relating to the Fossil Free Careers campaign with relevant university staff and include student campaigners where relevant.
4. To use relevant SU social media channels to amplify petitions, statements and other calls to action from the Fossil Free Careers campaign.
5. To send out a press release and website statement announcing the passing of this motion and the support of the union for this campaign.
6. To never allow oil, gas, or mining companies access to SU-organised events, or to lend the SU name, logo or endorsement to events which include these companies.
7. To refuse the presence of oil, gas and mining companies in any SU-controlled physical or digital space.

1. For a precise definition of the companies we refer to when we say 'oil, gas, and mining companies' see the [Fossil Free Careers Targets](#) page.
2. [Revealed: the 20 firms behind a third of all carbon emissions](#)
3. [Impacts of copper mining on people and nature](#)
4. [Revealed: Trump officials rush to mine desert haven native tribes consider holy](#)
5. [The Dark Side of Coal](#)
6. [CUT AND RUN: How Britain's top two mining companies have wrecked ecosystems without being held to account](#)
7. [Rio Tinto blasts 46,000-year-old Aboriginal site to expand iron ore mine](#)
8. [Cerro de Pasco: The city built around a mine](#)

9. [Oil industry has a millennial problem as talent pipeline trickles](#)
10. [Millennials at work](#)
11. [How do we regenerate this generation's view of oil and gas?](#)
12. [Universities committed to Fossil Free Careers](#)
13. [Lancaster Sustainability](#)
14. [People & Planet's Fossil Free Careers Campaign](#)