

Motion Name: Fossil Free Careers

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Background

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. As far as we are aware 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. As far as we are aware the University Careers Service already restricts who is allowed to advertise jobs to students. It currently doesn't allow companies from the tobacco industry to use its services.
7. The university has divested from the fossil fuel industry and yet continues to allow companies from this industry to recruit students through the careers service.

Purpose

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 ethical principles of sustainability.
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.

Actions

1. To publicly support the Fossil Free Careers campaign,¹² and lobby the university career's department to:
 1. Refuse all new relationships with oil, gas or mining companies (as defined in Reference 1)
 2. Decline to renew any current relationships with oil, gas or mining companies after the contractually obligated period ends.
 3. Adopt 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 network chairs 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 network chairs 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 Bristol 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.

References:

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. [People & Planet's Fossil Free Careers Campaign](#)