

Dear Oxford fellow,

We are writing to ask your support for the campaign to make sure Oxford University has a credible and effective policy for socially responsible investment (SRI) that takes into account the values of staff, students and stakeholders. I attach/enclose a leaflet with further details of the aims and history of the campaign. *Below are details of why we are particularly asking for your urgent support at this time.*

For the past two years student campaigners and the student union have been proactively campaigning for an SRI policy to apply to the centralised University investments. After ongoing but unproductive dialogue with the University Investment Committee, the campaign submitted a paper to University Council in January asking the University to investigate how a credible and effective socially responsible investment policy could be put in place. This paper was delayed by University Council till its meeting in Week 1 this term, when it was only considered as the annexe to a 'rebuttal' report drafted by a working party, convened without student representation. Consequently, University Council were unable to even vote on student proposals for a constructive process towards SRI, and the University is left no nearer having an investment policy that recognises the moral and practical responsibilities of shareholders for the companies in which they invest.

We believe that given the widespread support for SRI amongst students, staff and other stakeholders in the University, the failure of University Council to respond to campaign concerns requires us to show that the University Community strongly rejects unethical investment, and supports the need for Oxford to engage in an ethical investment process.

A copy of the paper submitted to University Council is attached to this letter. If you feel able to add your voice of support to the proposals contained in this paper, I would urge you to let us know by getting in touch with the campaign by e-mail (president@ousu.org).

We would also welcome and encourage support from senior members of the University Community in taking further steps to bring the campaign for SRI in Oxford University to larger forums in the University.

If you have any questions about the campaign, please do contact us.

Yours Sincerely,

Emma Norris
President, Oxford University Student Union
On behalf of: Oxford SRI Campaign