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Purpose of this document

This document contains all the policy currently in effect for the LGBT Campaign. This is the policy that the LGBT Officers and the LGBT Committee are responsible for implementing and is sometime known as 'Live Policy'.

Policy Lapse

Policy Lapses in 2 circumstances

1. If a subsequent policy over-rides it.
2. After 3 years unless LGBT Conference votes to renew it.

Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2012 will lapse at the end of National Conference 2015.

What you need to do

If you are considering submitting policy to LGBT Conference you should first check whether any policy is currently 'live' for that issue and whether you need to change the National Union's current stance on that area of work.

If you require this document in an alternative format contact executiveoffice@nus.org.uk





Policy Passed at LGBT conference 2012

Education

Consent is Sexy!

Conference Believes:

1. One in eight LGB people experiencing homophobic hate incidents have experienced unwanted sexual contact as part of the incident.
2. 79% of trans* people who have experienced transphobic abuse report a sexual component to that abuse.
3. Students for Sex and Relationship Education (S4SRE) are a student campaign for decent sex and relationship education at all levels, and have recently been involved in campaigning against Nadine Dorries' "Abstinence for Girls" bill. They advocate education which empowers students to understand the complicated nature of consent and to promote active consent in sex and relationships.
4. That traditional campaigns to reduce rape and sexual assault statistics often focus on the survivor and not on the rapist (i.e. telling women to get taxi's home rather than walk as opposed to telling people not to rape)
5. The recent "don't be that guy" ad campaign in Vancouver aimed at telling people not to rape resulted in a 10% reduction in sexual assaults in the area, out of sync with neighbouring areas which experienced a 22% rise in sexual assaults.

Conference Further Believes:


1. Consent is really complicated! It is more than simply not saying no - sometimes "maybe" and "yes" can actually be "no's" when people feel coerced into situations. Consent can be affected by all sorts of power dynamics; gender, sexuality, class, race, (dis)ability, etc.
2. Active consent is sexy!
3. Active consent is basically the idea of seeking an enthusiastic YES! as "best-practice" with regards to consent.
4. "Rape culture" is a term to describe how acts like victim blaming, placing emphasis on potential victims rather than perpetrators in anti-rape campaigns, etc. leads to a culture of legitimising rape and sexual assault.
5. Most people see consent as simply "not saying no", education at all levels on consent issues would be useful at combating this element of rape culture.


Conference Resolves:

1. To lobby the government to require schools and colleges to teach about consent in schools, along the lines of what's in Notes and Further Notes.
2. To affiliate to and promote the work of S4SRE.
3. To advocate for similar campaigns to the "don't be that guy" campaign here in the UK.

Against HESA Student Records for 2012/2013 academic year.

Conference Believes:

1. That the Higher education statistical Agency (HESA) has revised its policy on the way gender is recorded on enrolment forms.
 2. That legal sex on birth certificate will replace gender on enrolment forms and be either Male or female.
 3. Gender ID will also be included and is suggested by the equality challenge unit that the questions will be "Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were originally assigned at birth?" with the possible answers of: 'Yes', 'No', or 'Information Refused'.
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4. That non-cissexual people should not be required to out themselves in order to engage in education.
 5. That there are multiple definitions and sources for the identification of a person's gender/sexual identity, legal and otherwise, and that birth certificates are the least useful of those.
 6. That a transsexual person's stated sexual identity (as distinct from orientation) is a true expression of their sex for the purposes of HE records and statistics.
 7. That, should legal identification be required, as the sex/gender as listed on legal and primary identification documents such as passports and driving licenses (being current documents that may only be changed alongside supporting medical/legal evidence), is a more sensible designation of a person's sex/gender than a birth certificate entry.
 8. That erasure of non-binary sexual and gender identities is harmful both to the people to whom they relate, and to wider understanding and acceptance of these identities.

Conference Further Believes:


1. That the fact that the new field, student.GENDERID, is described as an "equality characteristic" dismisses non-cissexual/non-binary identities, misunderstands the nature of gender identity, and is accordingly disrespectful and harmful.
2. That the ECU suggested question "Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were originally assigned at birth?" for the Student.GENDERID field constitutes an invasion of privacy for trans people.
3. That the possible entries for the Student.GENDERID field (Yes, No, Prefer NOT to Say) erase non-binary identities.
4. The issue of record keeping is regularly a problem area for trans people, for whom a number of institutions have put in place systems and procedures to minimise distress and disruption, which would be disrupted by HESA's changes.
5. That Warwick University has already interpreted HESA's guidance of "legal sex" to mean "birth sex" as displayed on a birth certificate.


Conference Resolves:

1. That NUS LGBT condemn this change by the HESA and make a public statement in opposition to these changes to the Student record.
2. That HESA remove sex from enrolment forms.
3. That HESA make a more inclusive gender ID option with what is a feasible Male/Female/Other or Non-Binary/Information refused.
4. Consult HESA on ways of attaining information in ways that are more sensitive to trans issues.
5. To challenge any educational institution which implements or attempts to implement these changes in their current form or under an interpretation that "legal sex" is best represented by the sex listed on a person's birth certificate, rather than on other more current primary forms of legal identification.

NUS must lead the student fight back to the government's assault on students and education

Conference Believes:

1. That research shows LGBT students suffer from high levels of estrangement
 2. That research also shows that many other LGBT students do not come out for fear of losing parental funding during education
 3. That statistics show young LGBT people who are closeted are more likely to suffer mental health problems than those who are more free to express their sexual orientation and gender identity
 4. That the Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) has been scrapped by the government
 5. That FE unions are less likely to have LGBT services than HE institutions
 6. The coalition governments proposed cuts are currently having a devastating impact on education and public services and therefore the lives of LGBT people.
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7. On a national level the NUS is letting down LGBT students by failing to organise any mass actions or initiatives against the government's assault on students and education.
 8. That the fight to defend education is not over: NUS must do more to lead the student fight back against cuts – including organizing another national demonstration, using creative protests, lobbies of parliament, petitions, media work and more.
 9. NUS LGBT and the other liberation groups have been involved in a wide range of campaigning during the last few years, from photo stunts, to petitions to occupations.
 10. NUS' membership is vast, covering over 600 unions and 7 million students across the UK, and strives to represent them all when protesting and fighting for our student rights.
 11. That the recent demonstrations against fees and cuts in London have mobilised thousands upon thousands of students UK-wide.

Conference further believes:

1. That financial barriers to education hit LGBT students harder
2. That debt and financial stress have a more negative impact on LGBT students who are estranged or in fear of estrangement.
3. That government policies are likely to worsen drop-out rates and mental health rates for LGBT students (which are already higher than our straight and cis colleagues)
4. That the withdrawal of EMA will have a devastating impact on the lives of many young LGBT students, at a time in life that is often particularly challenging for us
5. That the lack of LGBT provisions in FE unions (and the lack of unions at all in many FE institutions) will leave these students with no support
6. That cuts to LGBT charities and services will compound all of these problems.
7. Cuts are hitting the courses with the most LGBT content hard. In some cases complete departments are being shut.
8. Cuts are destroying enrichment programs in colleges, which is commonly the only place where LGBT activity exists.
9. Vital services such as counselling services which LGBT students access disproportionately are feeling the brunt of cuts in the education sector.
10. That LGBT societies need to be equipped with the resources and the inspiration to not only attend these national demonstrations but to keep the momentum up on their own campuses and cities.
11. UK Uncut have wide-ranging visual campaigns from flashmobs to internet videos that they use to protest at a low cost.

Conference resolves:

1. To ensure anti-cuts campaigns talk about liberation issues.
 2. To actively campaign and lobby for NUS to call a first term national demonstration in 2012 against cuts, fees (both higher and further education), high interest on student debts and privatization of our education.
 3. To organise create protest such as those demonstrated by UK Uncut activists.
 4. To mandate the NUS LGBT Officers to vote in favour of NUS organising a national demo at the forthcoming NUS National Conference.
 5. That if NUS fails to call this national demo, for the NUS LGBT Campaign to work with all other Liberation Campaigns, anti-cuts groups and students' unions committed to fighting back against the government's assault on education, and organise a national demo with these groups.
 6. NUS LGBT to recognise these smaller unions and equip them with the resources and techniques to protest locally at an affordable cost to them whilst engaging with as many students as possible.
 7. NUS LGBT to share the skills and strategies from UK Uncut and impart them to all LGBT societies.
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The 'F' Word

Conference Believes:

1. Feminism is instrumental in LGBT liberation
2. Feminism has played a vital role in the creation of and strength of the LGBT movement.
3. Feminism should not be confined to the women's movement
4. There is a misconception that feminism has no place in the LGBT movement
5. Many people think feminist is a dirty word, they believe in gender equality but don't associate themselves with the term.

Conference Resolves:

1. To offer feminist workshops at activist training days open to all gender identities
 2. To produce materials which highlight the role feminism has to offer in the LGBT movement and make them available online
 3. Work within the LGBT movement to eliminate sexism through education; to work with the women's movement to eliminate LGBT prejudices and discrimination.
 4. To run a "this is what a feminist looks like" campaign highlighting the different gender identities and sexual orientations of feminists in our campaign.
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Gay Dumbledore

Conference Believes:

1. The Harry Potter series is both in print and on screen one of the world's biggest dynasties and success stories. It's estimated that with translation into over 20 languages, the Harry Potter books and the films (into over 70 languages) will reach half of the world's population.
2. This type of domination of the libraries, internet and screens gives Rowling and movie producers unimaginable power to influence people and challenge prejudice.
3. Rowling "outed" Professor Albus Dumbledore, the Headteacher of Hogwarts during a fan meeting in New York in 2007, citing that he had an 'interest' with Gellert Grindelwald, a dark wizard that he duelled on his way to obtaining the Elder Wand.

Conference Resolves:


1. Produce a list of LGBT-friendly (outside LGBT-norm literature) books that have positive promotions of LGBT people (whether snogging or not!)
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Get to School!

Conference Believes:

1. That homophobia and transphobia is still prevalent in schools.
2. That NUS LGBT has launched a project to encourage and train LGBT students to run outreach work in their local schools.

Conference further believes:

1. If we want to tackle homophobia and transphobia in universities and colleges we need to fight homophobia and challenge views and attitudes of people before they become students as well as when they are members of our institutions.
 2. That any work around outreach in schools needs to be long term.
 3. Due to the numbers of activists in universities and colleges NUS LGBT has the potential to reach
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- a large number of schools and have a positive impact to work in this area.
4. The training that teachers receive whilst they are students could be influential in tackling homophobia and transphobia in schools.
 5. That continuing to work with partners with expertise in this area such as LGBT History Month, Schools Out and NUT (National Union of Teachers) and all other relevant teaching unions, such as NUSUWT, UCU and NAHT is vital.

Conference Resolves:

1. To continue the work of the schools outreach programme and aim to increase the number of participating unions.
 2. That Schools outreach should become a constant part of the campaigns work.
 3. To look into what NUS LGBT can do to improve LGBT training that student teachers receive.
 4. To strengthen our working relationship with LGBT History Month, Schools Out and the NUT.
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Small and specialist colleges

Conference believes:

1. That for the past 4 years the NUS LGBT Campaign and worked with the FE Campaign and other to create an LGBT society in every FE College.
2. That even good progress has been made there is still room for improvement
3. That there are small and specialist colleges that do not have LGBT groups/societies or sometimes even LGBT Officers.
4. That this year (2011) the FE Officer fought for and successfully saved Student Governors

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the recent cuts to EMA and other funding from the Government mean that the new intake of students in the next academic year will be under increasing pressure to get financial support elsewhere to sustain them through their studies.
2. That it is therefore vital that LGBT students have a safe space to meet other like-minded students, whatever institution they may study at, from whatever sector, away from their part-time/full-time degrees and part-time/full-time work.
3. That in order to continue the good work of the NUS LGBT and FE Campaign have done, we cannot afford to ignore those who study at small and specialist colleges, who have different needs to other students.
4. That there is scope to set up a similar strategic volunteering project to that of the FE project as mentioned above in aiming towards setting up an LGBT group/society at every small and specialist college.

Conference resolves:

1. To mandate the LGBT Officers and FE reps to hold a meeting with the FE Officer to plan the best course of action to create an LGBT Officer in every union.
 2. To provide and update a toolkit aiming at helping small and specialist college union LGBT Officers as to how to set up an LGBT group/society at an institution that may have limited resources and funding compared to other larger College Unions.
 3. To link small and specialist colleges with local LGBT groups to ensure they have the local support they need, and a wide experience base.
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Welfare Zone





Mental Health Matters

Conference Believes:

1. Young LGBT people are up to 3 times more likely to attempt suicide;
2. Lesbian and bisexual women are up to 4 times more likely to become alcohol dependent;
3. Gay and bisexual men are more at risk of eating disorders and body image problems than heterosexual men.

Conference Further Believes:

1. The LGBT community has unique mental health needs
2. Healthcare is a right and not a privilege - all persons should have access to mental health care regardless of their economic status
3. The government's privatization of the NHS will adversely affect the LGBT community who disproportionately rely on NHS mental health services

Conference Resolves:

1. To oppose the privatization of the NHS and campaign against cuts to NHS services
 2. NUS LGBT will work with the disabled students campaign to promote an LGBT specific mental health campaign which encourages students to seek help and advice and tackles the stigma surrounding mental health in the LGBT community
 3. To conduct research into how LGBT students access mental health services and their experiences of these services
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Estrangement and Homelessness

Conference believes:


1. That in the past NUS LGBT Campaign, published the report, "Evaluating Estrangement: A report into the estrangement application process in higher education student finance".
2. That the report looked at estranged students (67% of which were LGBT) and their experiences of applying for financial support within the Higher Education sector.
3. The report showed key findings in the form of problem trends, and from this produced a series of recommendations.
4. The decision of LGBT students to "come out" to their parents has and still does sometimes result in estrangement.
5. That the Albert Kennedy Trust is a charity which directly tackles LGBT homelessness, and their case studies show that a high percentage of homelessness is due to estrangement.

Conference further believes:

1. That the report showed, among other things, The lack of understanding on the part of Local Authorities about estrangement, and the lack of encourage research. othersto undertake knowledge available for estranged students.
2. That in some instances estranged students had to prove they were estranged from their parents by getting confirmation from their parents!
3. That a student is only considered estranged if they have had no contact with their parents for a year. If a reconciliation attempt is made during this year, the funding application may be void.

Conference Resolves:



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1. To continue the work we've done lobbying Student Finance and other institutions regarding the complex issues that surround estrangement and guide them on how to best
 2. That the process must be flexible enough that limited contact and attempts at reconciliation with parents can be allowed without automatically invalidating a student's status as estranged. That data collection on estrangement applications should be greatly improved
 3. To meet with the Albert Kennedy Trust and work with them in depth to tackle LGBT Homelessness due to estrangement and other issues.
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Women who sleep with women's sexual health

Conference believes:

1. Sexual health information for women who sleep with women is full of myths, which perpetuate the idea that women are at low or no risk when it comes to catching sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
2. Discourse commonly suggests the sex that women have with each other is not 'real sex'.
3. Data is not collected in the NHS on women who sleep with women and could simply be recorded in the same way men who sleep with men are.

Conference further believes:

1. Real and hard facts are needed to combat the myth that women can't transmit STIs to each other.
2. We need to smash the phallocentric concept of sex within society, in order for sex that doesn't involve a penis to be validated.
3. Data that could be gathered from the NHS would be able to clarify the realities of risk between women who sleep with women.

Conference resolves:

1. To create a myth busting campaign which LGBT societies, officers and students can use to inform any campaigns they run around sexual health.
 2. To lobby the NHS to recognise and validate women who sleep with women as demographic whose data is worth recording.
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I'm not bi-curious, I'm bi-furious!


Conference Notes:


1. Diva magazine is the only monthly glossy newsstand magazine for lesbians and bi women in the UK. Its facebook page expressly says one of its aims is "to encourage lesbians and bi women to feel happy and positive about their sexuality".
2. Diva magazine invited comment on its facebook wall asking the following question:

"I am writing an article for DIVA magazine about why some lesbians avoid dating bi women and the reasons for their decision.

I am interested in hearing from lesbians and bi women who are willing to share their dating experiences and opinions with me. You are welcome to use a pseudonym if you like.

This is not a generalised article about biphobia, but looks at the specific choice some women make to exclude bisexuals from their "dating pool". My aim is to explore an issue that continues to provoke strong feelings within our community in an objective way, and to understand why this is so."



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3. This topic elicited a stream of comments, many of which were extremely biphobic and maintained that bisexual women who slept with men were contaminated, that bisexuality is just a phase and that bisexual women eventually return to men because it is an easier lifestyle.

Conference Believes:

1. Biphobia is hurtful and wrong wheresoever it occurs but even more so when it comes from within a community that is meant to include and embrace bisexuality.
2. Negative stereotypes of bi women remain prevalent in the media and in the LGBT community.
3. Bi women are a valuable and active group in LGBT communities which should be the first place to go for comfort and to liberate oneself.
4. Despite Diva magazine's admirable statement of inclusivity, more needs to be done by them to counteract negative stereotypes of bi women, who are a core part of their readership.
5. Although it is not Diva magazine's job to police their readers' opinions, when such biphobia is being voiced on their turf it is clear that they have a duty to reinforce their commitment to inclusivity.
6. Bi men are subject to similar discrimination in gay male media and communities.

Conference Resolves:

1. To contact Diva magazine encouraging them to include more content about bi women, and to actively counter negative stereotypes.
 2. To do the equivalent for magazines catering for MSM where appropriate.
 3. To continue to challenge biphobia wheresoever it is found.
 4. To hold a workshop about challenging biphobia at the NUS LGBT Activist Training Days
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Liberate Yourself

Conference Believes


1. Women still experience prejudice
2. That the experiences of Women are often overlooked and misunderstood
3. That education often results in greater understanding
4. Greater understanding can lead to individuals challenging their own prejudices and ignorance
5. It is often difficult to understand peoples personal experiences unless you have a safe space to explore and learn about them
6. www.liberateyourself.co.uk provides such a space where people can interact with issues that impact on disabled students, access resources, links and support, share their own personal experiences and ask anonymous questions that are answered by students who identify with them

Conference Resolves

1. To advertise www.liberateyourself.co.uk to the student population and encourage students unions to use it as an interactive educational tool
 2. That the Disabled Students Committee will engage with the project by helping to respond to the questions asked and sharing any experience they feel comfortable sharing
 3. To provide publicity (e.g. posters/flyers/pull up stands) a NUS events.
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Keeping the Faith

This Conference Believes

1. That this year a number of societies around the country have worked on faith related issues
 2. That NUS has been given a grant to do LGBT and faith work with FE students
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This Conference Further Believes

1. LGBT students experiences of, and views towards, faith are incredibly diverse
2. That LGBT societies should be safe spaces for LGBT people of faith
3. That regardless of an individual's view of faith, it is the responsibility of NUS LGBT to support students making LGBT friendly spaces in all areas of life, including faith communities
4. That there is sometimes tension between faith groups and LGBT groups on campus
5. That working together can make our campuses a more enjoyable place to me
6. That working together can help break down racist and LGBT-phobic views. For example activists working together in east London to combat homophobia and racism resulted in LGBT organisations being invited to speak at meetings held in the East London Mosque.

This Conference Resolves

1. To build deeper links with LGBT faith groups
 2. To ask societies to send in reports of any faith based events they do to help future committees share best practise
 3. To ask NUS LGBT Event attendees a voluntary question about their faith so we can build our knowledge about our members and better meet their needs
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We need protection!

Conference Believes:

1. Blood-Borne Viruses have been consistently on the increase since the 1980s.
2. The UK Government and Scottish Government cuts to Blood-Borne Virus (BBV) Prevention funding.
3. The recent work by NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign to investigate cuts to BBV Prevention funding which has uncovered moves by NHS Health Boards to move Prevention Funding to Treatment Funding.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That BBV Prevention Funding should be protected by both the UK Government and the Scottish Government.
2. That whilst treating BBV is extremely important, NHS Boards should not be held ransom by pharmaceutical companies for the price of treatments and that alternative buying measures should be investigated to ensure the best price for the best medication to treat BBV.
3. That peer-to-peer education, relevant community action and prevention materials at the point of need are important to ensure our community learns about BBV and their transmission paths.

Conference Resolves:

1. To write to the United Kingdom Government and all devolved Governments asking for assurance that BBV Prevention Funding will be protected.
 2. To campaign against cuts to BBV Prevention Funding.
 3. To assist NUS Scotland LGBT, NUS Wales LGBT and NUS-USI LGBT with campaigns against cuts to BBV Prevention Funding in devolved nations.
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Liberating Drag Kings!

Conference Believes:

1. NUS has policy to promote a diverse range of images of loving parents, and in 2008, National Conference passed a motion for these images to include drag kings.
2. Outside of National Conference, many student representatives and delegates have enquired as to exactly what a drag king is; some have explained that they thought it was a joke and was just a play on 'drag queen'.
3. A drag king is usually a woman who dresses in stereotypically masculine clothes and expresses a male gender, which usually is part of a performance or gender queer act to a wider audience.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Even within the LGBT Campaign, there is much misunderstanding of gender identity and Trans identities.
2. Often ridicule is the result of the wish to hide a knowledge gap, and this is especially true of student leaders who feel they 'should know' everything as there is an expectation on them from their electors.
3. Gender expression is a complex part of our identities and as a Campaign we must ensure that our members are comfortable to be able to discuss their knowledge gaps in a safe space.

Conference Resolves:


1. For gender expression to be a part of the 2012/13 Activist Training Days and for the Committee to prioritise publishing a Briefing on gender expression to Students' Unions, and available on NUS Connect website.
2. For NUS to include drag kings, as well as other gender expressions, in their images, including drag king mothers.
3. For NUS to complete a regular audit of its publications (both on and offline) to verify that there are many examples of drag kings and other gender expressions being promoted by NUS media, and critically these portrayals must be across a spectrum of activity and life, including in the classroom, in relationships (including polyamorous ones), multi-racial, with children and in non-heteronormal family units.


Supporting and Defending LGBT Welfare

Conference Believes:

1. The report *Mental disorders, suicide and deliberate self harm in lesbian, gay and bisexual people* (2008) concludes that 'LGB people are at significantly higher risk of mental disorder, social isolation, substance misuse and DSH (deliberate self harm) than heterosexual people.'
2. In Stonewall's *Prescription for Change* Report (2008) half of interviewed women had had negative experiences in the health sector in the last year, despite the fact that it is now unlawful to discriminate against lesbian and bisexual women.
3. That NUS LGBT published the LGBT Healthcare Manifesto in 2009.
4. PACE's 'Where to Turn?' survey asked about people's experiences of seeking help when suicidal. Unprompted, 23% of LGBT people reported a negative experience directly relating to their LGBT identities when accessing mainstream services.
5. That in DIVA magazine online article "The Cuts Don't Work" it reports Professor Michael King's study of NHS therapists in 2009 found that 16% of NHS therapists admitted to having tried to cure or reduce people's feelings of same sex attraction.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That studying at a HEI is often the first time that many LGBT students are away from home.
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- Many will need to find new support networks and/or access welfare services.
2. That LGBT societies are often the first port of call for LGBT students looking for support and/or welfare services and this is one of the key roles that LGBT societies can offer to their members.
 3. That some LGBT Societies may not know how to correctly respond to or address these issues and/or signpost their members to other suitable services.
 4. That many HE Institutions have their own student health centres and counselling services which should be fully aware and supportive of specific issues that might arise as the result of a student being LGBT.
 5. The consequence of cuts to welfare services, which specifically support the LGBT community, will be detrimental to LGBT individuals long term.

Conference Resolves:

1. That NUS LGBT will write a toolkit supporting LGBT Societies to link in with the welfare provisions in their area, both for signposting and more significant support (such as workshops, resources, advice, etc).
 2. That NUS LGBT will run a workshop on "LGBT Student Welfare" at their Activist Academy Days.
 3. That NUS LGBT support LGBT Societies and Officers who uncover LGBT discrimination at their local student health centres or counselling services.
 4. To continue to lobby the NHS to implement guidelines ensuring all their healthcare professionals receive mandatory and appropriate training on LGBT issues.
 5. To resist Government cuts to welfare services that specifically support or benefit the LGBT community.
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Trans Parenting Rights!

Conference Believes:

1. There are many people who either cannot or do not wish to have children, yet there are many children desperately seeking foster homes and foster parents.
2. Within the LGBT community, there are many of us who do not wish to reproduce (for a variety of reasons) and there are many of us equally who do wish to reproduce.

Conference Further Believes:


1. We must switch up the pressure on Government and the European Union to deliver rights to LGBT people to foster children, have our family units recognised and to have our reproductive rights granted and protected.
2. The humane way to control reproduction is through education – not through sterilisation, oppression or curtailment of rights.


Conference Resolves:

1. To champion trans rights in 2012/13, including at training days and workshops put on by the campaign
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Women and LGBT People Throughout Society – Including Central to House of Lords Reform! End the Appointed Geritocracy!

Conference Believes:

1. The Coalition Government has set out proposals reforming the House of Lords, and its preference is to reduce the number of members in the House and to have at least 80% directly elected for single terms of office of 15 years.
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2. The Campaign generally believes in elected representatives over appointed representative of the people, and most LGBT organisations have for many years called for the House of Lords to be axed.
 3. Women are disproportionately under-represented in legislatures in the UK.

Conference Further Believes:

1. The reform agenda has been brewing for over 130 years, with the biggest leap forward coming in the passing of the Parliament Act 1911 which blocked the Lords' from stopping the will of the Commons and from voting on any "money bill"). In 1999, the Labour Government legislated to restrict the hereditary peerage in the House of Lords.
2. There are a handful of well known LGBT members of the Lords, some of whom even are LGBT rights campaigners and activists, others are general sympathisers to the "cosy consensus" that is built in to the Westminster political elite.
3. If there are going to be elections to the House of Lords, we must campaign to ensure that it is not going to get dominated once again by the "one percent".

Conference Resolves:


1. For the Committee to draw up a response to the consultation on the future of the House of Lords
 2. For the response to support gender balance in the new Lords.
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No Place For Hate

Conference believes:

1. According to the NUS hate crime survey results, almost half of trans respondents were worried about being subjected to abuse because of their gender identity, as did 34% who opted not to disclose their gender identity.
2. 55% of trans respondents said they had been a victim of threatening words, behaviour or threats of violence, the majority of which believed this was motivated by prejudice, whilst 20% had experienced at least one form of physical abuse.
3. LGB respondents were 10 times more likely than heterosexual respondents to be concerned about being subject to abuse because of their sexual identity.
4. 31% of LGB students surveyed had experienced at least one hate incident related to their sexual orientation some time during their current studies, compared to 2 per cent of heterosexual students, whilst 9% had experienced one or more forms of physical abuse.
5. Hate-related incidents against LGBT students are largely unreported, with only 8-11% of sexual orientation or gender identity prejudiced incidents being reported to the victim's institution, with levels of police reporting even lower.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Hate crimes, incidents and speech are still a big problem in universities and colleges, as well as in wider society, in the UK
 2. The sector must take collective responsibility for this, with institutions acknowledging this as an issue by taking firmer action
 3. Institutions and student unions alike should play a big role in highlighting these issues on campus and lead the way by celebrating diversity on campus
 4. All students should be able to live, work and study free from (and free from fear of) discrimination, prejudice and hate related crime and be able to freely explore and/or define their identity, gender and sexuality
 5. When made a victim of a hate crime or incident, students should not be made to feel as though their grievance is somehow insignificant
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Conference resolves:


1. Support student unions in delivering and lobbying for preventative and educational activity on campuses, as well as organising events that demonstrate integration between different students/groups.
 2. Continue to help establish and strengthen existing LGBT networks on campuses, that are financially supported and are well connected to services and wider support networks.
 3. Collectively, with the other zones and liberation campaigns, push institutions to affirm/reaffirm their commitment to challenging hate on campus through codes of conduct, equality and diversity policies, zero tolerance and complaints/reporting procedures.
 4. Work with the welfare zone to provide guidance and briefings on ensuring that hate crime reporting centres and other mechanisms are in place locally and well publicised on campuses, that are integrated into existing support units and services, and to develop online hate crime reporting mechanisms.
 5. Work with the welfare zone to empower student unions to handle potentially difficult scenarios and decisions on speaker events and debates, relating to LGBT-sensitive issues on campus.
 6. Provide more robust information and guidance on the law on hate crime, victim's rights and criminal justice procedures.
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Specific Healthcare for LGBT people

Conference Believes:

1. The healthcare system consistently ignores, devalues and discriminates against the LGBT community.
2. Health provision in the UK often ignores specific LGBT needs in heterosexist policies and training of healthcare staff.
3. Currently, medical schools are under no obligation to include training for medical students/ junior doctors on sexual orientation and gender identity
4. A recent study by stonewall on lesbian and bisexual women's health indicated that over half of the women who responded had negative experiences in the healthcare sector.
5. That many institutions in both HE and FE have campus medical practices and counselling services which provide for all students, including LGBT students.
6. Historically Trans people have suffered terribly in all aspects of healthcare in the UK
7. The NHS has been slow to keep up with new developments in culture and treatment when it comes to Trans patients.
8. Most Transsexual patients suffer long drawn out battles to receive treatment they deserve access to.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That often LGBT people do not register with their campus healthcare services, use campus counsellors or their union welfare services for fear of discrimination.
 2. That the answer is not to give everyone the same, it is to address LGBT specific needs.
 3. That we need more evidence of access to healthcare issues on campuses in order to better campaign on this issue.
 4. The NHS has continued to fight to limit access to healthcare services for Trans patients even since the courts ordered them to provide a service.
 5. Refusal to see Trans patients as anything other than under the mental health care remit continues to stigmatise Trans patients despite recent developments in research into the biology of Transsexual patients.
 6. New procedures and surgical techniques for Transsexual patients still take too long to arrive in the NHS with other countries healthcare systems providing a greater level of expertise in Trans healthcare.
 7. GPs continue to be in the dark when it comes to Trans patients often turning them away, being unhelpful and showing prejudice in their treatment.
 8. Waiting lists for access to treatment for Transsexual patients in the UK are still too long with
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funding often been refused causing long drawn out funding battles leading to increased risks of suicide and people being forced into the private sector.

Conference Resolves:

1. To work with the current Trans healthcare providers to further improve their services.
 2. To facilitate a working group of LGBT student activists, medical students and healthcare students, with the common aim of improving education and understanding of LGBT healthcare issues within the medical and healthcare education.
 3. To produce a guide on how to organise such activism within institutions, and how to organise medical and healthcare students, using best practice examples from those institutions who have achieved such successes.
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Save Trans Treatment

Conference Believes:

1. That the repugnant classification of Gender Identity Disorder (GID) is the only thing keeping the NHS's Gender Identity Clinics (GICs) open for business.
2. That in a time of Tory cuts, any attempt to rock the boat on GID could potentially result in the loss of all NHS treatment for gender identity issues.
3. That one in three (1 in 3) young trans people attempt suicide more than once.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That pathologisation is preferable to the loss of NHS treatment.
2. That the loss of NHS treatment would greatly exacerbate trans oppression.

Conference Resolves:

1. Not to oppose GID until it is considered safe to do so.
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Society and Citizenship Zone

Body elitism in the LGBT Community

Conference believes:

1. Unfortunately, body elitism is still just as rife within the LGBT community and the LGBT scene as it has ever been.
2. We are surrounded by images that project a specific portrayal of an idealised unrealistic image of what is a desirable body shape, size and weight.
3. That this culture can often lead to severe criticism of other people's size and shape or a unhealthy self image of our own shape and size suitability.
4. That Pink News (January 2012) reported that 'Half of gay men would die a year early for the perfect body'.
5. Body elitism is a direct consequence of the sexism that exists within this society.

Conference further believes:

1. This body elitism can cause people to develop eating disorders, diet in unhealthy ways, exercise excessively, take diet pills, skip meals, use smoking or drugs as appetite suppressants and may increase use of vomiting, laxatives or diuretics as a means to losing weight.
2. The media plays a heavy part in the 'body beautiful' obsession within society, using size zero and

now even completely computer generated images, very rarely reflecting the diversity within our society.

3. This body elitism is present in all of society, but especially on the LGBT scene, where many staff are employed to reinforce this body image and advertising for LGBT events and club nights are regularly dominated by this elitism.
4. In some cases the effects of body elitism can lead to severe mental ill health in individuals and our wider community.
5. We've fought so hard to have LGBT spaces in the first place, these must be inclusive, accepting and inviting safe havens. In order to achieve this, we need to remove the elitist body images we are subjected to and replace them with ones that reflect the genuine diversity of our community.

Conference resolves:

1. To challenge LGBT media to portray the diversity of our community more accurately.
2. To create a resource that empowers LGBT societies/ Officers and Students to challenge sexist and body elitism on their local LGBT scene.
3. To work across other liberation campaigns to make effective and coordinated change when tackling this issue.

LGBT Asylum and International Students Rights

Conference Believes:

1. In 2010, Asylum rights were granted in the UK on the ground of sexual orientation.
2. That the LGBT campaign engages few International Students at the moment.
3. NUS LGBT currently has a Love Without Borders campaign.#
4. The "power-sharing" coalition government in NI comprises two parties registered as Unionist (the Democratic Unionist Party and the Ulster Unionist Party), two parties registered as Nationalist (Sinn Féin and the Social Democratic & Labour Party) and the Alliance Party, who describes itself as "cross-community".
5. There are 108 Members of the Legislative Assembly of Northern Ireland (MLAs), six being elected each general election from the 18 Westminster Constituencies.
6. Much legislation and policies that affect LGBT people are drawn up and made in Northern Ireland, now that devolution has essentially been fully implemented as envisioned in the Belfast Agreement.

Conference Further Believes:

1. The asylum changes are positive, but the policy has not been competently put into practice.
2. More work needs to be done to make the campaign more inclusive of international students. Issues around cultural barriers and outing are commonly not well understood.
3. That Amnesty International has done a lot of work relating to LGBT issues and LGBT rights internationally.
4. The Love Without Borders campaign has lost its energy and needs to be relit.
5. All advance of LGBT rights legislation ever in NI have been made by Direct Rule ministers – never by the Assembly or the NI Executive, and in 2006, DUP's Nigel Dodds attempted to strike down an Order-in-Council made by the Westminster Government stating that it "infringed religious rights".

Conference Resolves:

1. To work with Amnesty International to find common goals and campaigns to improve and extend the work of the Love Without Borders Campaign.
2. To lobby the government to improve the system by which people can claim asylum.
3. Actively oppose any Ministry being held by the DUP that includes the equality and LGBT rights agenda in NI.

War Kills Equality – Liberation not Occupation

Conference believes

1. That NUS LGBT has policy supporting the position 'liberation not occupation'
2. That NUS LGBT policy opposing military action Iran is due to lapse this year
3. That there have been increased threats of war against Iran in the last year including sanctions
4. That Iraqi LGBT organisations such as 'Iraqi LGBT' have stated that the 2003 war led to life becoming much harder for LGBT people in Iraq.
5. That Iraqi LGBT has documented a sharp rise in torture, murder, and rape against LGBT people since 2003

Conference Further Believes

1. That many Iranian democracy and women's rights activists inside and outside Iran, have appealed against outside intervention, as this can bolster support for hardliners in Iran
2. That sanctions, wars, and occupation make it harder to organise for Liberation
3. That military action against Iran would make life even worse for LGBT Iranians, as happened in Iraq
4. That Queer organisations in both Israel and Palestine have documented how the occupation of the West Bank harms LGBT people's ability to gain equality
5. That any arguments for military action based on Iran's terribly LGBT rights record could lead to a backlash against Iranian LGBT people
6. That there is not enough awareness about the impact of war and occupation on LGBT rights amongst non LGBT people

Conference Resolves

1. To reaffirm its position of 'Liberation not Occupation.'
2. To oppose military action against Iran
3. To make contact with Iranian LGBT activists wherever possible
4. To raise awareness of the impact of war on the fight for LGBT rights amongst our non LGBT allies
5. To build links with LGBT groups based in the middle east and abroad that oppose war and occupation
6. To work with organisations in the UK who oppose war in the event of an attack on Iran
7. To lobby anti-war organisations in the UK to talk about how war and occupation sets back LGBT liberation


Donation not Discrimination Continues

Conference Believes:

1. The decision by Safety of Blood, Tissue & Organs (SaBTO) Board to withdraw the lifetime ban on gay & bisexual men from donating blood, to a one-year deferral period for any man who has had sex with a man;
2. The campaigning of NUS LGBT and Student Unions against the ban under the 'Donation not Discrimination' campaign;
3. That NUS LGBT led the debate years ahead of other organisations to campaign against the lifetime discriminatory ban.
4. The Scottish National Party's decision to withdraw the one-year deferral period based on sexuality to a fair deferral period based on sexual practice and risk of infection.
5. The lifetime blood ban is still imposed in Northern Ireland.

Conference further believes:

1. The decision by the SaBTO Board was a step forward from the lifetime ban that was imposed.
 2. The reduction from lifetime to a one-year deferral period is in effect still a ban on donating blood
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- for most men who have sex with men.
3. The campaign should continue to ensure that the unfair deferral period based on sexuality is changed to one based on sexual risk.
 4. That the Scottish Parliament should lead the rest of the United Kingdom by legislating to change the deferral period.
 5. That NUS LGBT should work with the NUS-USI LGBT Officer in any efforts to fight against the blood ban in Northern Ireland.

Conference Resolves

1. That NUS LGBT continue 'Donation not Discrimination' with a view of changing the deferral period from one based on sexuality to that on sexual practice or the risk of that practice.
 2. The NUS LGBT should write a letter to the Scottish Government urging them to lead the United Kingdom in implementing a fair deferral period based on scientific research and the risk of infection.
 3. That NUS LGBT should focus resources on working with NUS-USI LGBT to fight against the discriminatory blood ban that is still imposed on men who sleep with men.
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Sterilisation of Trans people

Conference Believes:

1. That currently to have gender reassignment surgery in Sweden, patients are forced to have a sterilization procedure.
2. That this law was passed in 1972, and given the chance to update it Sweden have not.
3. The European Human Rights Commissioner has ruled this as violating human rights laws.
4. That at the date of writing (27th Jan 2012) a petition against this outdated law has gained 74,136 signatures, and many prominent LGBT groups have spoken out against this.

Conference Further Believes


1. That Trans people have the same human rights as every other person, including their own body autonomy.
2. That the international community should condemn this out of date law.
3. That there is widespread support for the Trans community of Sweden, with international groups showing solidarity.


Conference Resolves

1. To work with our international LGBT community to push for equal rights in each of our countries.
 2. To mandate the current LGBT officers and future LGBT officers to work to protect the rights of Trans people worldwide
 3. To work alongside the International students officer to challenge Transphobia abroad.
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LGBT rights in Turkey

Conference believes:

1. Though same-sex sexual activity has been legal since 1858, LGBT people are often socially condemned within Turkish society.
 2. There have been many accounts of murders and honour killings of LGBT people in Turkey.
 3. In 2008 Ahmet Yildiz, a gay man, was shot dead in Istanbul as an act of honour as a result of his homosexuality.
 4. Women, LBT or otherwise, continue to be subject to perpetual heterosexist and patriarchal conventions restrictive of their sexuality, particularly within the Kurdish community, in which the
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- number of honour killings is at its highest.
5. Trans people are particularly marginalised and many are left to resort to prostitution in order to survive due to rampant discrimination and lack of legal protection.
 6. In light of the above, there have also been many counts of murders and honour killings of trans people.
 7. Conscription is mandatory for all men in Turkey.
 8. It is not permitted to be a passive homosexual and be in the army.
 9. There have been accounts of human rights violations for those who identify as passive and homosexual in the Turkish army.
 10. There are no anti-discrimination laws in place for LGBT people in Turkey.

Conference further believes:


1. Many male British Turks and Turkish students in the UK will eventually have to fulfil the duties of their conscription or lose Turkish citizenship.
2. It is widely unacceptable to be LGBT and Turkish or Kurdish, and those who are often suffer discrimination as a result.
3. The recently formed UK Turkish and Kurdish Rainbow Association (UK TKRA) represents lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans Turks, Kurds and Turkish Cypriots in the United Kingdom.

Conference resolves:

1. NUS LGBT should raise awareness of the issues for British Turks and lobby the relevant governmental parties to work towards change in Turkish culture and society.
2. NUS LGBT should support the UK TKRA in the work they do to support and represent LGBT Turks, Kurds and Turkish Cypriots in the United Kingdom with regards to the treatment of LGBT people in Turkey.
3. NUS LGBT should work towards providing assistance for British Turks who suffer as a result of their LGBT status.

You can't fix what's not broken

Conference Believes:

1. The Core Issues Group held a conference entitled "The Lepers Among Us: Homosexuality and the Life of the Church" in Belfast and London in January 2012, in which they referred to homosexuality as 'same-sex sin' which is a 'disease' and offered advice to the Church on how to 'change' and 'redeem' LGBT parishioners.
 2. Sixth Form Student's at a Jewish Faith school reported that in a discussion of homosexuality they were advised toward JONAH (Jews Offering New Alternatives for Healing) a group which teaches that homosexuality can be "mitigated and potentially eliminated"
 3. Prior to Belfast Pride 2011, an engagement meeting was held between Pride organisers and leaders of the Stormont political parties – all were invited, yet only the DUP failed to send a representative.
 4. Claiming to have not received an invite until only days beforehand (and therefore could not find a representative), for the DUP this is actually a pleasant snub, considering some comments from the DUP first couple:
 - a. After a homophobic attack in NI in 2008, Iris Robinson, an MP, MLA, local councillor and the DUP spokesperson on health, stated that homosexuals need psychiatric counselling and LGBT people made her feel "sick" and "nauseous".
 - b. Defending her comments, Bigot Iris stated that "just as a murderer can be redeemed by the blood of Christ, so can a homosexual and if anyone takes issue with this, they're taking issue with the Word of God" and she stated to a Common's Grand Committee that "There can be no viler act, apart from homosexuality and sodomy, than sexually abusing innocent children"
 - c. Robinson's husband, Peter, leader of the DUP and First Minister of NI has states that "it wasn't Iris that who determined that homosexuality was an abomination, it was The
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Almighty. This is the Scriptures! It is a strange world indeed where somebody on the one hand talks about equality, but won't allow Christians to have the equality, the right to speak, the right to express their views."

Conference Further Believes:

1. That claims of 'cures' for homosexuality are damaging and hurtful to our community
2. Our sexual and gender identity is not a disease or a deprivation
3. Groups which claim to cure homosexuality under the guise of faith are an attack on our identity and work against LGBT liberation

Conference Resolves:

1. To publicly oppose and denounce any form of reparative therapy for LGBT people
 2. To contact churches which have scheduled these events urging them not to allow these groups to use their facilities
 3. Work with Interfaith to encourage faith groups which do promote a better understanding and support LGBT persons of faith
 4. Offer workshops to LGBT societies regarding LGBT and faith thereby encouraging dialogue between faith groups and LGBT societies and working to tackle prejudice whilst reaching out to LGBT person's of faith
 5. Stop wheeling-in God!
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308 Dress and Dress Codes

Conference Believes:

1. There are many cultural dresses and ornaments that are worn, including on campuses.
2. Clearly this is just as acceptable as any other way people wish to express themselves – including expressing their gender and their sexuality.

Conference Further Believes:

1. In recent times, a woman wearing a hijab was told that she couldn't be a lesbian because of the headscarf, a vintage suit-wearing gay student regularly is ostracised because of his clothing and a made-up man who did not fit within the skinny-fit world told he was "clearly not gay and that [the make-up] is offensive" by a drag queen!
2. Often LGBT people's dress decisions have prevented them from entering so-called LGBT nights or clubs, with women being told that "your hair is too long" (i.e. you're straight you cannot be lesbian), fat men because of their size being prevented entering told "sorry mate, its 'members only'" only to brandish the chaser-partner, with the doorman then saying the club is full.
3. Do not think that students' unions are free from such discrimination! We know that Flirt!, a sexist cis-normal entertainment sold by NUSSL is mainstreaming what men and women should do at an SU club night.

Conference Resolves:

1. Produce catalogues of diversity, showing many LGBT people, celebrating clothing, dress style, body shape, disability, drag-status, colour and race.
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Strong and Active Unions

An LGBT representative in every union

Conference believes:

1. Students Unions are an excellent platform for challenging discrimination and promoting liberation
2. LGBT students are underrepresented in their unions
3. There can be no liberation without representation and no representation without visibility
4. We deserve to have our voice heard in every students union up and down the country
5. There should be an LGBT representative in every union
6. Student Unions' and their student demographics are different across the country, and therefore there is no 'one size fits all' approach to effective representation and this is also true of LGBT representation.
7. Many FE and HE institutions are developing new, exciting and successful ways of doing representation that doesn't conform to the traditional cross campus 1 officer elections.
8. Finding new and effective ways of engaging LGBT activists and democratically involving LGBT students in their unions is vital for the development of our students and the success of the national campaign.
9. Representation can come in many different forms and each has their own benefits.
10. Whatever the LGBT representation structure, it should be democratic and have the power to voice the opinions of LGBT students.

Conference resolves:


1. To produce a briefing on fighting for an LGBT officer in your students' union outlining why liberation officers are needed now more than ever
 2. To actively support any LGBT group who request help to organize a campaign for an LGBT officer
 3. To continue to support existing LGBT officers through officer training, guidance and support.
 4. Delete CB 5 and replace with: there should be LGBT representation in every union
 5. Delete CR 1 and replace with: To produce a briefing for Students' Unions and LGBT Societies stressing the importance of LGBT representation. The briefing should include a variety of different ways to involve LGBT students in the democratic structures of your institution. This should include but not be limited to: LGBT Officers, LGBT Forums, Job shares, reserves places of student councils and/or student executives etc.
 6. Delete 'CR3 and replace with: To continue to support existing LGBT officers, representatives and activists through officer training, guidance and support
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Gender-Neutral Toilets and Sports Facilities

Conference believes:

1. Gender is self-defined according to an individual's gender identity.
2. That a large number of people who may identify as trans have a gender identity or gender presentation that is often misunderstood by others.
3. That gender presentation and gender identity often do not fit within a simple male/female binary.
4. A lack of awareness regarding such issues means that trans people have difficulties in areas of life others would take for granted.
5. That trans people are often inappropriately forced to use disabled toilets or (more often) gender-specific toilet facilities in which they may face serious discrimination.

Conference further believes:

1. That trans people should have the right to use facilities that they feel most comfortable with, free of discrimination and harassment.
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2. Many trans students would benefit from the availability of gender-neutral toilets, which may exist alongside the gender specific amenities currently available.
 3. That recent focus groups for the Out in Sport campaign have shown that not only trans people feel alienated from and fear using gendered sports facilities and changing rooms; so do many LGB people because they may face homophobia.
 4. That Pink News recently reported a school student was forced to use the boy's changing rooms by her teachers after coming out as a lesbian ('Gay girl forced to use boys' changing room', 20/1/12).
 5. Many students, trans and LGB, would benefit from gender-neutral sports and changing facilities such as single cubicles.
 6. That educational institutions are environments in which LGBT students should be able to feel as comfortable in themselves as anyone else.
 7. That motions in favour of gender-neutral toilets in many universities have provided a positive precedent which we can draw from and build upon.

Conference resolves:

1. To continue the national drive by the NUS LGBT liberation campaign for the establishment of gender-neutral toilet facilities.
 2. To encourage and support student LGBT groups and student unions to fight for gender-neutral toilet and sports facilities in their educational establishments and student union buildings by expanding and updating the current briefing pack offering support, advice, and educational literature to these organizations.
 3. To expand the online briefing for constituent members on the issue of gender neutral toilets to include sports facilities; including best practice policy, examples of constituent members who have successfully passed policy in favour of gender neutral facilities and strategies for winning the arguments.
 4. To offer support for students so that they can use the facilities that they feel most comfortable with - whether gender-neutral or gender specific - free of discrimination and harassment.
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Improving connections between LGBT Activists and other LGBT organisations


Conference Believes

1. That running events with speakers from external organisations can be a useful tool for LGBT activists.
2. That it can be very difficult for LGBT activists to know how to approach organisations in order to make contact.
3. It can be difficult to know which organisations will be student friendly, and willing to travel to your area.

Conference Further Believes

1. That the NUS LGBT Campaign is in a much better place to make contact with such organisations.
2. That having the NUS establish which organisations are student friendly, and informing LGBT activists in student unions of this information would make it easier for activists to organise such events.

Conference Resolves

1. For NUS LGBT Campaign to approach LGBT organisations to find which ones are willing to work with student unions.
 2. For NUS LGBT Campaign to compile a list of such organisations; including information about the organisation, contact details, and how far each organisation is willing to travel.
 3. For NUS LGBT Campaign to make this list available through NUS Connect.
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Supporting LGBT societies growth and development

Conference believes:

1. One of the factors that make NUS LGBT so successful is the strength of the LGBT societies on campuses across the UK.
2. LGBT societies have a fundamental roll to play in improving LGBTQ students' experiences while at college and university.
3. Many colleges do not have LGBT societies.
4. NUS LGBT using its Activist Training Days (ATDs) to engage and educate it's members in fighting for LGBT Liberation
5. That NUS LGBT ATDs have been widely successful in training up activists with a large number of students attending.
6. That all students should be able to leave NUS LGBT ATDs feeling empowered and like they've learnt valuable skills.

Conference further believes:

1. NUS LGBT can only be as strong as it's LGBT societies in unions therefore it's fundamental that they exists, are well supported and have the means to develop.
2. Many LGBT societies experience peaks and troughs in their success and NUS LGBT should communicate that this is ok.
3. LGBT societies should exist with fair proportions of social, welfare, representative and campaigning functions. Recognising this balance and achieving it is the key to excellent societies.
4. That some students will have more experience than others as they will have been in the movement longer.
5. That to continue for the ATDs to have a high turnout we need to provide basic training for activists but also look at having Advanced training where students can find out in more depth about issues they already have a previous understanding of.


Conference resolves:

1. To create an 'LGBT group in every union' campaign, which particularly focuses ways it can support colleges to build LGBT activity.
2. To develop a toolkit that provides recourse on how to strengthen your LGBT societies including how to maintain consistency from year to year.
3. To ensure that there are at least two tiers of training available to students.
4. To canvass the membership to find out the level of knowledge and the interests of students so we can identify the specific training.

Pride is for EVERYONE

Conference Believes:

1. That Pride events are focused around and aimed at embracing a diverse community of minority sexualities and gender identities.
 2. That Pride events should be accessible, community-led and supportive of all LGBT people.
 3. That in order for an event to be fully inclusive of members of the LGBT community, people belonging to different identities should be involved in the organising process.
 4. That a self-defining member of one minority sexuality or gender identity is unable to fully understand issues faced by members of all minority sexualities and gender identities.
 5. That in order for a Pride to cater for all minority sexualities and gender identities, a diverse range of people is needed to work on making the event successful and fully inclusive.
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6. That women and trans people are still under-represented even within the LGBT community.
 7. That not all Prides are run by an inclusive group of people.
 8. That measures can be taken to help combat this.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That when questioned by a member of the NUS LGBT Committee about the inclusion of trans people in the organisation of Essex Pride, Tony Skeate, Chair of Essex Pride 2011, stated "Being trans is a gender identity issue not sexuality, and we would not ask people to define their gender identity."
2. That when questioned about the inclusion of women in the organisation of Essex Pride, Skeate stated "I have no idea what the ratio male to female is [of the General Committee]. Again, it is irrelevant".
3. That after being offered support and suggestions, Skeate did not respond.
4. That there is only 1 woman out of the 8 members of the steering group for Birmingham Pride 2012#, and 1 woman out of the 5 members of the management team for Manchester Pride 2012.

Conference Resolves:

1. To continue to campaign for Prides to be accessible and community-led.
 2. To enquire about the way in which individual Prides are organised and led.
 3. To offer support to Prides judged to be non-inclusively organised, to aid them in becoming more inclusive.
 4. To campaign against the organisers of Prides judged to be non-inclusively organised, who make no changes after having support offered to them.
 5. To encourage LGBT societies to offer their help to local prides.
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Encouraging women's representation

Conference Believes:

1. Women are chronically underrepresented in all aspects of public life, Student Unions and the NUS is no exception
2. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Queer women are even more underrepresented in Student Unions and NUS
3. Change begins within our on movement, in order to be inclusive we must encourage and support LGBT and queer women to stand for elected roles

Conference Resolves:

1. Strengthen our commitment to women's representation by reaffirming the need for the NUS LGBT Officer (women's place)
 2. Actively encourage women to come to NUS LGBT conference as delegates
 3. Call on the women's movement to continue to support LGBT women's representation and work with the women's movement to produce a briefing on how we can encourage women to stand for elected office.
 4. Actively encourage LGBT women to stand for elected roles; this will include supplying information about the support available if you are considering standing for an elected position.
 5. Create an online contact network where LGBT women candidates in their unions and NUS can exchange information and support each other in their campaigns.
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Tackling LGBT phobia in sport during and after the Olympics

Conference Believes

1. This year understanding the real and perceived barriers to LGBT students in sport has been a priority for the NUS LGBT campaign.
2. 2012 is the year London will be hosting the Olympics and a lot of money and effort is being invested in to the legacy of the Olympics.
3. Conference 2010 passed policy in relation to discrimination faced by LGBT people in sports teams and societies and policy passed in 2011 called for a campaign focused around the Olympics legacy work to tackle LGBT phobia in sport.
4. Research by the Equality Challenge Unit in 2009 found that many LGBT students self exclude from participating in sports clubs and of those who are involved 62% were not out.
5. Research run by the Skills Funding Agency in 2011 found that a significant number of LGBT students didn't feel safe in sports areas and facilities.
6. Using the above information as a starting point qualitative research has taken place during 2012 by NUS LGBT.
7. That this research led project has created strong links with sector partners and sporting affiliates.
8. BUCS is an association to which students' union from FE and HE affiliate for their mainly full-time students to participate in intervarsity sporting matches and championships.
9. Ignoring the fact that BUCS is ageist with its "no one over 28" policy for being selected for the national squad, and that in most sports, they prohibit part-time students from competing, BUCS is inherently a homophobic, biphobic and transphobic organisation.
10. BUCS' Conferences and AGM regularly see staff and delegates ostracising camp or "gay-looking" delegates. Previous meetings have seen homophobic bullying of students by their appearance as well as their oral presentation, using uniquely public-school homophobic taunts and stereotyping.
11. Just as with other parts of society, there are LGBT people regularly and actively playing and participating in sport.
12. Sexism and "lesbophobia" is rife in BUCS, with mainly men abusing women who play football or (how dare they) rugby for being "Lesbos" or "dykes". Sexism and homophobia are institutional in BUCS and prolific in student sport.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Whilst the perpetrators may think it funny and a good laugh to chide someone with homophobic taunts or gestures, this bullying reduces even the most strong of persons to depression.

Conference Resolves

1. To design an action plan based on the research findings to be implemented across the Further Education (FE) and Higher Education (HE) sector.
 2. To design a briefing for LGBT societies/officers and Students' Union Executives to implement changes to the real and perceived barriers LGBT students face when taking part in sporting activities.
 3. To include a broad range of LGBT, FE/HE sector partners and sporting bodies to take ownership on the above mentioned action plan.
 4. To host a large launch event of the action plan and briefing as part of wider Olympic celebrations.
 5. To continue to encourage students' unions to sign the Government 'Charter for Action' against homophobia and transphobia in sports, and to create a briefing on how to hold unions to account if they don't abide by it.
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100 Rules Revision

Bye to Gay Men's Caucus

Conference Believes:

1. The passing of a motion to constitute a Gay Men's Caucus.
2. That the Gay Men's Caucus excludes Bisexual Men, Trans Men and Queer Men.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Gay Men are considered the most powerful grouping within the LGBT Campaign.
2. That a Gay Men's Caucus sharing an agenda with the Women's Caucus ignores the privilege of Gay Men within the campaign and assumes an equal platform.
3. That a Gay Men's Caucus shows disrespect to the oppression that non-gay men face in the LGBT Movement.

Conference Resolves

1. To remove a 'Gay Men's Caucus' from the NUS LGBT Constitution.
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Increasing involvement, increasing capacity


Conference believes


1. Formal avenues of involvement in the internal work of the campaign are for the most part limited to running in elections for officers, NUS LGBT committee or steering committee.
2. Due to limitations of time available to officers and the volunteers of the elected committees NUS LGBT can at times struggle to deliver on the large range of policy that is passed at conference.
3. The campaign is getting larger with more people attending conference and more societies on campuses.

Conference further believes

1. Involvement at a national level in the campaign is good, and this shouldn't be limited to coming to conference.
2. Elections for positions for NUS LGBT committee are becoming increasingly more contested and therefore this increases the difficulty for students to get more heavily involved in the campaign.
3. NUS LGBT is essentially suffering from a capacity problem which is only going to get worse.
4. With more people actively involved in the campaign volunteering their time NUS LGBT would have more capacity to fulfil its work.
5. The elected officers and committee should be the political leadership of the campaign in-between conferences. Political leadership and involvement in the campaign are two different things.

Conference resolves

1. To create a new level of non political leadership involvement in the campaign, to increase opportunity of involvement and capacity of NUS LGBT.
 2. That this should take the form of 'working groups' on specific areas, membership of which including NUS LGBT committee members and activists from different institutions.
 3. For NUS LGBT committee and/or the NUS LGBT Officers to be able to create a working group on a particular topic as needed.
 4. That working groups should be organised via online means wherever possible in order not to create additional cost to NUS LGBT which the campaign cannot afford.
 5. For committee to decide a process of application to be used to order to decide student members
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- for the working groups.
6. The work of working groups should be practical and supportive and not stray into representation or political leadership.
 7. To look at groups such as IGLYO (International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Youth and Student Organisation) to see how working groups operate in their originations.
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Conference Capacity

Conference Believes:

1. In 2009 conference passed a motion that reformed the delegate entitlement to NUS LGBT Conference.
2. This change ensured that black and trans students have additional guaranteed places at conference.
3. The current delegate entitlement grantees LGBT women's attendance at conference.
4. NUS give a grant of £100,000 to all four liberation campaigns to host their conferences and training events.
5. In 2010 NUS LGBT conference cost in excess on £52,000.
6. NUS LGBT conference is our core decision-making body as a campaign and a large focus of our democratic engagement.
7. The cost of attending NUS LGBT conference for unions has increased every year inline with the increasing numbers attending.
8. The NUS LGBT committee in the last 3 years has consistently voted to not seek sponsorship from banks due to tax avoidance and corruption present.
9. Sponsorship from other sources has been difficult to secure.
10. That NUS LGBT has the largest liberation conference in NUS
11. That since NUS LGBT increased delegate entitlement, conference engagement has risen sharply
12. That since NUS LGBT increased delegate entitlement two of the remaining three liberation campaigns have also done so
13. That this has happened at a time where NUS nationally has cut back delegate entitlement

Conference Further Believes:

1. The current delegate entitlement, which allows each union between 4 – 8 delegates but forces a cost on unions, is no longer a viable option.
 2. That we have seen as increase in the number of trans students attending conference but not in the number of black students attending conference.
 3. We have seen a marked increase in the number of people attending and voting in the women's caucus.
 4. That the £100,000 grant split between the 4 four liberation campaigns in NUS is difficult to divide and has not been well managed.
 5. It is expected that the cost of conference will continue to increase as the numbers of delegates continues to increase or simply inflation makes the running costs higher.
 6. Democratic engagement is the heart of the NUS and increasingly higher fees forces unions who can't afford to attend conference away from participation.
 7. Although sponsorship each year is sought it is not a reliable means of ensuring LGBT students can engage in our democratic processes.
 8. That engagement in our democratic processes is key to the success and accountability of our campaign
 9. That increased delegate entitlement has been a success in terms of boosting engagement
 10. That some unions find it difficult to fund all their places
 11. That NUS LGBT should do all it can to reduce delegate costs
 12. That NUS LGBT could benefit from a more focusses funding strategy
 13. That conference funding should be in keeping with the values of the campaign
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Conference Resolves

1. To challenge the conferencing budget allocated the liberation campaigns from a perspective of increased involvement.
 2. To undergo a review to the current delegate entitlement and conference structure where the cost to unions and democratic participation will be at the heart of review.
 3. To make this a priority to ensure new options (at least two plus the status quo) are given to conference 2013 to discuss.
 4. To mandate the new committee to form a conference-funding sub-committee led by one of the LGBT officers
 5. The sub-committee should be formed at the first committee meeting of the year
 6. The remit of this sub-committee should be to explore sponsorship options and to report back with recommendations and ideas to the national committee, preferably before Christmas.
 7. When undergoing these reviews, to consider how to increase representation of international students.
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For the Active Inclusion of Asexuals


Conference believes:


1. An Asexual is someone who does not experience sexual attraction; or who experiences sexual attraction rarely or under limited circumstances.
2. Asexuality neither prescribes nor precludes romantic attraction.
3. Asexuality is in itself a variation within the spectrum of human sexualities.
4. Heterosexuality is a sexual attraction to those who are not of one's own gender.
5. That, in accordance with CB4 above, Asexuality is neither Heterosexual or Heteronormative.
6. Asexual individuals can and do face discrimination for being non-heteronormative.
7. "Bisexual" implies sexual attraction, and thus excludes Asexuals who are attracted to people of more than one gender.

Conference further believes:

1. The Asexual Community Census 2011 suggests that 41.5% of Asexuals consider themselves part of the LGBT community, with a further 38.1% considering themselves allies.
2. Many Students' Unions and LGBT+ student groups include Asexuals within structures for gender and sexuality minorities or actively support asexual awareness and activism, both within their group or nationally; including but not limited to: University of Warwick Students' Union, Warwick Pride, Unity Bangor, Bangor Students' Union, Reading University Students' Union, University of Birmingham Guild of Students, University of Birmingham LGBTQ, Lancaster University LGBTQ* Association, West Thames College Students' Union, University of Hertfordshire Students' Union LGBT+ Association and Society, and Aberpride.
3. That other national organisations of similar purpose (e.g. QYN) have seen fit to include Asexuality as both an acceptable criterion of membership and as a distinct point within the campaigning structure.
4. That several LGBT+ student groups organised events for Asexual Awareness Week 2011; including Warwick Pride and the Kent Union LGBT Campaign.

Conference resolves:

1. To amend Standing Order 106 to read: 'Individual Members who self-identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bi and/or Trans or Undecided/Questioning or Queer, or who self-define as any other marginalised
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- romantic/sexual orientation or gender identity (including but not limited to Asexual, Pansexual, Bigender, and Genderqueer), or who choose not to define their romantic/sexual orientation or gender identity shall be considered the Members of the Campaign.
2. For NUS LGBT to promote and raise awareness of all its membership, including Asexuals.
 3. For NUS LGBT to not exclude some Asexuals on the grounds of being non-queer, i.e. both heteroromantic and non-trans.
 4. For a workshop on Asexuality to be included in at least one of the 2012 LGBT Activist training days.
 5. For NUS LGBT to support and affiliate to Asexual Awareness Week.
 6. To organise an "Asexual Caucus" at each NUS LGBT event where caucuses are held.
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Caucuses

Conference Believes:

1. The Standing Orders do not explicitly state who may attend the caucuses that are required to be held at Conference.
2. Not all students that attend the Black caucus identify as black.
3. Black caucus has always included students from non-white backgrounds.

Conference Further Believes:


1. For the avoidance of doubt, it would be beneficial for the Standing Orders to explicitly state who may attend the caucuses that are required to be held at Conference.
2. In some circumstances, the existing Representative for a certain group of the membership may no longer self-define into that group or be a part of that group. However, they should still be able to attend the respective Caucus the following year for accountability purposes.


Conference Resolves:

1. To add the following to the Standing Orders:
 - a. Women's Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as women and/or the existing Women's Place Representatives.
 - b. Bisexual Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as bi and/or the existing Bisexual Representative.
 - c. Black Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as Black and/or the existing Black Students' Representative.
 - d. Further Education Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who are in Further Education or who have been in Further Education in the same academic year and / or have been FE representatives.
 - e. Disabled Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as disabled and/or the existing Disabled Students' Representative.
 2. To allow Steering to update the Standing Orders as necessary, and using the same pattern as above, if any other caucuses are required by Conference.
 3. Change Conference Resolves C) from "Black Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as Black and/or the existing Black Students' Representative" to Black Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as non-white and/or the existing Black Students' Representative.
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Living on the edge shouldn't exclude us from Conference

Conference believes

1. That the most recent NUS LGBT Conferences have taken place in Manchester, Sheffield and Liverpool.
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2. That we have active members in all areas of the UK.
 3. Cost of travel around the UK continues to rise.
 4. Finances are a huge barrier to accessibility.
 5. NUS used to have a Travel Pool for NUS National Conference.
 6. NUS LGBT Conference 2005 was held in Edinburgh.

Conference further believes

1. That holding Conference in the same area is beneficial to local Unions with continually low travel costs, yet unfair for Unions further afield who have higher travel fees and longer travel time.
2. Travelling far can mean previous over night accommodation (an extra cost), arriving late, or not attending Conference.
3. Travelling from Brighton to the last 3 Conference destinations; advanced train travel booked on 13/2/12 would cost £228.60 (£84, £60.50, £84).
4. Travelling from Leeds to the last 3 Conference destinations; advanced train travel booked on 13/2/12 would cost £46.30 (£12, £18.30, £16).
5. This represents a 394% difference in travel cost to attend the last 3 NUS LGBT Conferences for Unions in Brighton compared to Unions in Leeds, a difference comparable with other Unions on the edge of the UK.
6. An active discussion on this topic took place on the NUS LGBT Facebook Group.

Conference resolves

1. The NUS LGBT Committee to work with others to find options to correct this vast inequality and financial barrier faced by some Unions. Options to explore to include, but not to be limited to; a Travel Pool and moving the conference location more widely across the UK.
2. For the NUS LGBT Committee to bring proposals to address these issues to Conference 2013

The influence of committee on voting

Conference believes:

1. Conference and the caucuses elect the officers and representatives to lead, inspire, be vocal – and of course to influence people.

Conference further believes:

1. That seeing delegates or committee members displaying campaigning material on conference floor can also exert an undue influence on voting.
2. Unless an amendment is brought to strip committee of their votes on policy motions, they have the same right to speak, to listen and to vote on the debate, freely from their own perspective.
3. Undertaking two separate votes is bonkers, not least because it creates two classes of voting member, but imagine the chaos on Conference floor when a simple majority of Delegates is then over-turned by the committee vote, or a two thirds super-majority vote is swung – it won't just be Gay Men's Caucus passing by one vote (on a simple majority) or Free Education that will be left down to the Grandees to decide, but mundane things and hot topics like Sexist Salmon Fish Fingers and Gay Dumbledore!

Conference Resolves:

1. There shall be no change to the standing orders on show-of hands ordinary voting procedure.
 2. That conference floor be a space in which campaigning material is banned.
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Empowering Caucuses, a new procedural motion

Conference Believes:

1. Every conference meeting sees delegates asking whether certain motions or parts of motions can be “sent to a caucus” for decision.
2. Under the current procedures, it is possible to refer any question to another body or person, however, the effect of doing this means that as the full Conference has not approved the policy, then it is not official policy of the Campaign
3. There are often many legitimate reasons for delegates asking the Conference to refer matters – including allowing a safe space discussion with the LGBT campaign conference: for instance the name of the Bisexual Caucus being determined by Bisexual students (and becoming the Bi caucus).

Conference Resolves

1. To amend the standing orders as follows:
 - a. To add a procedural motion that “the motion, or part of a motion (including amendment) or another question, be referred to a specified Caucus”.
 - b. That the specified Caucus must be one which has been set down in the Standing Orders
 - c. That to hear the procedural motion, 25 delegates must consent to this (just like any other procedural motion)
 - d. That to approve the procedural motion, there will be one speech for, one speech against and then a simple majority of the full Conference shall agree to refer a decision to a specified Caucus
 - e. The procedural motion shall only be allowed if there is a scheduled meeting of the Caucus in question, else the procedural motion shall not be moved.
 - f. The procedural motion can be moved at any point during the full Conference up until the summation speech is started on the motion.
 - g. The result of the decision of the Caucus shall be communicated to the full Conference by the Steering Committee in the final session of the full Conference. The Conference shall vote to ratify this decision and shall require a simple majority for ratification.
 - h. If a motion referred to a Caucus impacts or inter-relates on other decisions, all affected policy text shall be referred. This shall be determined by the Steering Committee. (i.e. the motion and all its amendments. The Steering Committee may determine that the text can be split, however, this must be communicated to the Conference prior to the decision on whether to refer the motion or not).
 - i. The full rules of debate shall be in force within the Caucus meeting, except that no procedural motion may be put to refer the question to another body, including back to the full Conference.
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Priority Ballot

Conference Believes:

1. In recent years Steering Committee has conducted the priority ballot prior to Conference to speed up administration at Conference itself.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Conducting the priority ballot prior to Conference allows for more zone debate at Conference.

Conference Resolves:

1. To change
172. At Conference, the Steering Committee shall circulate a form on which voting members of



Conference may indicate the order in which they wish the Zones and/or motions to be taken for discussion.

173. The Steering Committee shall count all the forms returned to it one hour prior to the first motions session of Conference using the single transferable vote system for a single-member seat.

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172. Prior to Conference, or at Conference, the Steering Committee shall circulate a form on which voting members of Conference may indicate the order in which they wish the Zones and/or motions to be taken for discussion. Notification of which it will be will be given in the Notice of Conference.

173. The Steering Committee shall count all the forms returned to it at by the specified date and time using the single transferable vote system for a single-member seat.

Policy Passed in 2013 Conference

WELFARE

Step up on Mental Health

Conference believes

1. That mental health services are currently exempt from NHS waiting list targets.
2. That mental health services are severely underfunded and often inadequate as a result.
3. That LGBT people are more likely to have to engage with mental health services.
4. That trans people seeking treatment on the NHS to assist transition currently have to go through NHS mental health services to be referred to NHS Gender Identity Clinics.

Conference further believes

1. That a delay in accessing mental health services can have a severe and long lasting detrimental effect on LGBT students' education.
2. That in order of mental health treatment to be effective it needs to be tailored to the individual's needs rather than attempt to be one-size-fits-all.


Conference Resolves

1. To campaign for mental health services to be included in NHS waiting list targets so that people can be assured of swift treatment to limit the impact of mental health issues as far as possible.
2. To campaign for ring-fenced funding for NHS mental health services
3. To campaign for a greater variety of treatment options to be available on the NHS
4. To encourage the NHS to seek out and highlight good practice and innovation in mental health provision.
5. To campaign against time limited NHS treatment so that patients cease a treatment when it's medically safe and not because they can only have a certain number of sessions.

Domestic and Sexual Violence in the LGBT Community

Conference believes:

1. It is estimated that at least 1 in 4 LGBT people experience domestic violence/abuse (DVA).

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2. Since 2004 people in same-sex relationships suffering domestic abuse have been equally protected under the law in England giving them the same legal rights as domestic violence victims in opposite-sex relationships.
 3. One in four lesbian and bisexual women have experienced domestic violence. In two thirds of cases, the perpetrator was another woman. Four in five have not reported incidents of domestic violence to the police and of those that did, only half were happy with their response.
 4. Trans people are far more likely than other groups of LGBT people to experience DVA.
 5. Bisexual people and sexualities other than lesbian, gay or bisexual are more likely to have survived DVA than lesbians and gay men.
 6. Those who are disabled and those who are deaf or hard of hearing are more likely to have experienced DVA from others.
 7. Those with poor mental health or who have experienced mental health difficulties are more likely to experience DVA.
 8. Over one third of LBT respondents to the NUS Hidden Marks survey had been victims of sexual assault.
 9. The British Crime Survey 2009/10 found that 16-19-year-olds were the group most likely to suffer abuse from a partner.
 10. LGBT people under 35 are at most risk for DVA, and those in their first same-sex relationship are at high risk for DVA.
 11. Abuse is often emotional or mental, and these kinds of abuse are particularly under-reported.
 12. Physical abuse in domestic relationships is nearly always preceded and accompanied by psychological abuse.

Conference further believes:


1. LGBT students are at high risk for DVA.
2. LGBT people are often erased in awareness of and support for those who have experienced DVA or sexual violence.
3. Current support for LGBT people who have experienced DVA or sexual violence is inadequate.
4. LGBT people may fear experiencing LGBTphobia from support services such as Rape Crisis Centres, Women's Refuges and the Police.
5. Support services for survivors of DVA and sexual violence are often gendered, and that trans people may experience particular difficulties accessing them.
6. Anti-rape and anti-domestic violence campaigns often erase the experiences of LGBT people; and those that recognise violence in LGBT relationships almost always focus entirely on cis men.


Conference resolves:

1. To provide training for LGBT students, Officers and societies to help support students who have experienced DVA in LGBT relationships.
2. To collect and produce resources raising awareness of the issue of DVA in the LGBT community; and distribute them to LGBT Officers, students and societies.
3. To produce resources to enable LGBT students to campaign for support services in their Union, University, college or local community to be aware of the needs of LGBT students who have experienced DVA and to provide adequate support for them.
4. To undertake research into the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence/abuse among LGBT students.

Our healthcare, now!

Conference believes:

1. That the recent #transdocfail campaign shows an institutional failing in the care of trans*
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- people. 9427 tweets on the hashtag.
2. Scottish transgender alliance's trans mental health study found 'under 50% of the respondents felt attending a GIC had a positive effect on emotional wellbeing and mental health.'
 3. That section 2a of the NHS charter states: "You have the right to access NHS services. You will not be refused access on unreasonable grounds."

Conference further believes:

1. That the NHS provision of gender identity services isn't consistent with its own charter, with non-binary people being refused access to treatment as well as inconsistent provision of services across the UK.
2. Whilst Scottish NHS services have introduced more progressive standards of care, NHS England has not.
3. That for too long the decisions regarding trans* healthcare has been made by psychologists with vested interests in continuing the status quo, rather than timescales and treatments being decided by the patients themselves.
4. More trans* students are going through the private sector to access necessary healthcare which puts a further drain on limited funds.
5. Many students have difficulty fitting the arbitrary time scales around their course.
6. That NUS should be making more of a stand in representing students who have been mistreated by the NHS in provision of gender identity services.
7. NUS recognises that not all trans* people seek medical transition.

Conference resolves:


1. For NUS LGBT to survey trans* students experiences of trans* healthcare in the UK.
2. To take that information and use it to lobby the relevant organisations.


LGBT and Religion

Conference believes:

1. Religious organisations often reject and discriminate against members of the LGBT community.
2. LGBT individuals often find themselves in a no-win situation whereby they are rejected from both their religious community and the LGBT community for indentifying as both LGBT and religious.
3. Much progress has been made in reconciling LGBT and faith communities in the past decade
4. This dialogue has prioritised understanding between LGBT people who have affirmed their faith and those of no faith
5. The voices of LGBT survivors of faith-based abuse have been overwhelmingly silenced in these efforts to promote positive relations

Conference further believes:

1. Religions are not necessarily homophobic, biphobic, or transphobic despite their often being interpreted as such.
 2. There is a difference between the dogmatic and oppressive tactics of particular religious leaders and their institutions and an individual's expression of their own personal religious beliefs.
 3. LGBT people have every right to feel comfortable talking about their religious beliefs within the LGBT communities.
 4. The LGBT community should treat LGBT individuals of faith with respect as the LGBT movement cannot achieve equality unless we work together in solidarity against prejudice and discrimination in whatever form or nature it manifests.
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5. No individual's LGBT identity is a matter for anyone else's personal conscience
 6. The experiences of LGBT survivors must be central to our understanding of LGBT and faith relations
 7. Uncritically supportive presentations of faith create spaces which are exclusive and unsafe for survivors of faith-based abuse
 8. Rejection of any and all religious practice is a legitimate response to abuse experienced in that context

Conference resolves:


1. The NUS LGBT Campaign will properly consult with LGBT students of faith or from religious communities as to how the campaign can best support them.
 2. The NUS LGBT Campaign will provide student activists with arguments for expressing solidarity with LGBT people of faith who are experiencing prejudice and discrimination.
 3. For NUS LGBT to recognise the importance of faith to some LGBT students and work with faith groups to promote LGBT visibility within a wide range of faith groups
 4. To commend and promote religious organisations supportive of their LGBT members.
 5. That all of our work on LGBT and faith will be conducted reflectively and critically to create a safe environment for survivors of faith-based abuse
 6. That all of our work on LGBT and faith will elevate the voices of survivors of faith-based abuse who have both affirmed and renounced their faith
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A refreshed HIV/AIDS campaign

Conference believes

1. That HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) exists.
2. That World AIDS Day occurs annually on 1st December. This is a day to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS, educate the public, and raise funds for HIV/AIDS charities.
3. WAD is marked by many Students' Unions, especially via the LGBT Societies.
4. The prevalence of HIV continues to rise with 6280 new UK cases in 2011.
5. Men who have sex with men are at high risk of catching HIV, as are Black people. However, anyone, irrespective of sexual orientation and/or gender identity can contract the virus.
6. The Health Protection Agency estimates that 1 in 20 Gay/Bi men in the UK are HIV+, where London, Brighton & Hove and Manchester have the highest prevalence.
7. It is estimated that 25% of all HIV+ people are unaware of their status.
8. In November 2011 the lifetime ban on men who sleep with men (MSM) giving blood was reduced to a 12 month ban
9. In Northern Ireland the life ban is still in place
10. Reducing the lifetime ban to 12 months is a step in the right direction
11. A 12 month ban is still effectively a life time ban
12. The national blood service screens all donated blood for the presence of HIV and other STI's
13. There is a window where HIV may be present but not detected.
14. This window is not 12 months.
15. The eligibility for someone to give blood should be based on whether they practice safe sex not the sex or gender of the people they have sex with.

Conference further believes

16. HIV is not a 'Gay disease', but the LGBT community (especially MSM) is disproportionately affected.
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17. Myths, misconceptions and stigma around HIV is rife. This can be very damaging to the individual, promoting intolerance and dangerous sex practises.
 18. Stigma and prejudice makes it very difficult for many HIV+ people to 'come out' about their status, and for other people to even get tested.
 19. Often LGBT societies are left to run WAD events without the experience, support and funding of their SU.
 20. It is very important to provide accurate, accessible information about HIV and to promote safer sex, testing and support groups to all.
 21. In December 2012 a lecturer at Brighton University planned to show the film 'House Of Numbers' which denies that HIV exists and (amongst other things) promotes the theory that it is a pharmaceutical company conspiracy.
 22. LGBrighton and BSU's LGBT Campaigns Officer started to take action against the showing of this film, and subsequently forced its showing to be cancelled.


Conference resolves

1. To gather a list of local and national HIV/AIDS and sexual health charities and their contact details
2. To produce a campaigning resource with HIV/AIDS stats, tips on campaigning and event suggestions for WAD.
3. To make these resources freely available, including online (in a password free area) and to promote them to SUs in the run up to WAD.
4. To work with the Welfare zone to promote WAD, safer sex, testing and these resources.
5. To fight against and condemn HIV deniers, and the public showing of films such as House Of Numbers.
6. To propose this motion to NUS Conference to encourage a national campaign that educates all students about HIV/AIDS, inclusive of all sexualities, gender identities, and romantic preferences.
7. To oppose the 12 month ban on MSM donating blood
8. To launch a campaign for LGBT people to not be discriminated against when giving blood.
9. To launch an awareness campaign about that tackles these myths and prejudices.

Lobbying of the General Medical Council (GMC) for the inclusion of outcomes specific both to LGB and to T issues within 'Tomorrows' Doctors'

Conference Notes:

1. The 'NUS LGBT Healthcare Manifesto', which calls for "*Junior doctors, medical students and other student health practitioners to receive mandatory training in LGBT issues*".
 2. LGB Individuals have been shown to be at a higher risk of developing mental health issues (such as anxiety and depression) than the general population.
 3. LGB Individuals have been shown to have a lower access to screening services.
 4. The 'Trans Mental Health Study' [2012], which found that:
 5. 65% of trans individuals have experienced one or more negative interactions in general health services.
 6. 50% of trans individuals have been told by a healthcare professional that they did not know enough about a type of trans healthcare to be able to provide it.
 7. The 'Inclusion Project' [2003] found that "*Doctors confused transgender issues with issues of sexual orientation*"
 8. There are currently no guidelines from the General Medical Council (GMC) on what junior doctors should be taught in regards to sexual orientation and gender identity issues.
 9. That the GMC decides whether a Medical school is entitled to issue medical degrees.
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10. The GMC's requirements for undergraduate education are set out in "Tomorrow's Doctors".
 11. That a Medical School curriculum *"must be designed, delivered and assessed to ensure that graduates demonstrate all the 'outcomes for graduates' specified in Tomorrow's Doctors"* [Tomorrow's Doctors - Domain 5, Standard 81]
 12. In 2013, the GMC will be evaluating the impact of 'Tomorrow's Doctors' and the findings will be reflected in the outcomes they determine in future. [GMC Education Strategy]
 13. The term "gender identity" only appears in 'Tomorrow's Doctors' in relation to medical schools monitoring data about student applications. [Domain 3, Standard 56, Criterion 61]

Conference Believes:

1. LGB and trans issues within healthcare are often distinct
2. Many UK medical schools do not currently allocate teaching time to LGB or to trans issues
3. Junior doctors, medical students and other student health practitioners should receive mandatory training in LGB issues and trans issues

Conference Resolves:

1. To lobby the General Medical Council for the inclusion of both LGB-specific and of trans-specific 'outcomes for graduates' within 'Tomorrow's Doctors'.
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EDUCATION

The anti-bullying & tolerance motion


Conference Believes:


1. That NUS LGBT Conference brings together a vast range of students with differing socio-economic backgrounds
2. That NUS nationally believes that there is an increase in bullying with the increase of social media.
3. That NUS LGBT needs to promote tolerance in social media.
4. That to NUS LGBT Conference, promotion of tolerance and equality is integral to improving equality & diversity.
5. The social construct of society and its underpinning by a patriarchal hierarchy, defended and extended by many government departments, religious bodies and some educational institutions causes deep cuts within the fabric of a equitable society.
6. People are not born homophobic, or sexist, or racist. The society in which we live – that nurtures them, that makes them pray, that teaches them to read and gives them fun – causes hatred and discourse to be engrained in them.
7. A cross-liberation campaign approach must be taken to advance the agenda of crushing all forms bullying of LGBT people.
8. Secondary schools are required by law to record, monitor and report racist incidents. There is no similar legal requirement for the recording, monitoring and reporting of LGBT-phobic incidents

Conference Further Believes:

1. That Students' Unions/Guilds/Associations et need to promote awareness of all forms of bullying.
2. That discipline procedures in schools and other establishments do not rank LGBT-phobic incidents on the same level as racist or sexist incidents.

Conference Resolves:

1. To write to all universities to request of them a greater work-focused approach to the issues of cyber bullying, homo/transphobia and tolerance.
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2. For NUS LGBT to either produce materials or incorporate into existing materials the topics of cyber bullying, homo/transphobia and tolerance.
 3. To lobby the government to introduce an LGBT-phobic incident log book in each school, similar to that for racist incidents; and for the government to require OFSTED to look for ways schools challenge LGBT-phobic behaviour when assessing schools.
 4. That when working with schools, campaigns should also aim at working with and educating teachers about LGBT-phobia and its comparisons to racism and sexism.
 5. To work alongside unions/guilds/associations et al to encourage better training of staff in the issues of cyber-bullying, homo/transphobia, and tolerance.
 6. To widely campaign to educate about cyber-bullying, homo/transphobia, and tolerance.
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LGBT Access to Education


Conference Believes:


1. Widening Participation “addresses the large discrepancies in the take-up of higher education opportunities between different social groups. Under-representation is closely connected with broader issues of equity and social inclusion” (Higher Education Funding Council for England)
2. The greatest impact on ability to access and succeed in Further and Higher Education is social-economic background, but there are many other important factors, including those that affect LGBT learners throughout the lifecycle of their education
3. LGBT youth are disproportionately represented in figures for truancy, underachievement and premature exit from secondary education, all of which have a detrimental impact on the ability to progress into Further Education (Rivers, 2000)
4. The parents of 8% of LGB and 16% of trans students refuse to provide financial information to their Local Education Authority. Over half of these students are estranged from their parents but do not know how to prove this legally and so receive no financial support.
5. 49.5% of LGB students at University report homophobia from fellow students, while 1 in 10 experience homophobia from University staff. Trans students encounter even higher levels of negative treatment than LGB students. 1 in 4 have been bullied since starting University. The highest proportion of this abuse is received in halls of residence
6. 20% of LGB students and 28.5% of trans students have taken time out of their course (4-6, Equality Challenge Unit, 2009)
7. NUS HE Zone’s Widening Participation pages has no mention of LGBT learners, let alone any information, advice or guidance for working with LGBT students to access and succeed in Further and Higher Education

Conference Further Believes:

1. Engaging in Further and Higher Education provides essential spaces for LGBT people to establish identities and communities
2. LGBT students are not only under-represented in education, but in Widening Participation & Access policy and practice
3. LGBT students have specific needs and barriers to access and success, and the vacuum in current research on our journeys through education needs addressing
4. Institutions and Students’ Unions must work together to ensure that campuses are safe spaces for LGBT students, with particular attention to halls of residence

Conference Resolves:

1. NUS LGBT Officers to work with the NUS HE Zone to ensure the gaps for LGBT learners are filled within its Widening Participation resources
 2. NUS LGBT to lobby Student Finance England around LGBT students’ access to financial support
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3. NUS LGBT to run training and support for students to lobby for and develop Zero Tolerance campuses
 4. NUS LGBT Campaign to champion the work of LGBT Societies in Students' Unions who are delivering outreach projects, and work on their campuses to support widening participation and access
 5. NUS LGBT Committee to make Widening Participation & Access an area of priority and work with HE Zone & interested Students' Unions to develop a toolkit for students and societies interested in developing widening participation and retention projects in their Students' Unions, including support to lobby Institutions on campus safety
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RULES REVISION

Membership of Trans Caucus

Conference Believes

1. That at last year's LGBT Conference a motion to define the membership of Trans Caucus was rejected
2. That Trans Caucus is currently without definition for who can attend Trans Caucus
3. That Trans is an umbrella term covering a wide range of identities, including but not limited to Transgender, Transsexual, Transvestite, Genderqueer, Non-binary and two-spirit

Conference Further Believes

1. A definition for those who can attend Trans caucus is needed.
2. Those who are attending LGBT conference and questioning their gender identity should and will be welcome at Trans caucus.

Conference Resolve


1. That the membership of Trans caucus should be defined as the following:
"Trans Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the campaign who self-define under the trans umbrella (including but not limited to the following identities: agender, androgyne, gender-fluid, genderqueer, transgender, transsexual, transvestite, neutrois, non-binary) and those in the campaign who are questioning their gender identity"
-

Bi Caucus definition

Conference believes:

1. That the current caucus definition for bi caucus is as follows:
"Bisexual Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as bi and/or the existing Bisexual Representative. "
2. That attraction may not be based solely on sexual attraction.
3. That the current definition of Bi Caucus was added in a Steering rules revision last year, and does not reflect the decisions made by the membership of that caucus about who it should include.

Conference further believes:

1. That in 2010 'Bisexual Caucus' elected to rename itself to 'Bi Caucus', and to expressly include people who were attracted to more than one gender (whether sexually or romantically)."
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Conference resolves:

1. To implement a caucus definition for bi caucus as follows:
"Bi Caucus may only be attended by those in the campaign who experience attraction (sexual or romantic) to more than one gender. This includes(but is not limited to) students who identify as bisexual, pansexual, polysexual, omnisexual, queer (and attracted to more than one gender), biromantic, panromantic, polyromantic, and omniromantic. Bi Caucus may also be attended by the existing Bi Rep."
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Disabled delegates at LGBT Conference

Conference believes:

1. That delegations to LGBT conference already hold reserved places for minority groups within the LGBT campaign.
2. That currently these delegations have no obligation to have a reserved place for a disabled LGBT delegate.

Conference further believes:

1. That disabled LGBT people are an oppressed minority and should be given a reserved place within delegations coming to LGBT conference.


Conference resolves:

1. To vote to change delegate entitlements so that there is a place reserved in all delegations for a self-defining disabled LGBT delegate.
 2. In 123 replace "Additionally, each CM shall be allocated one (1) Black Members' Place delegate and one (1) Trans Members' Place delegate" with "Additionally, each CM shall be allocated one (1) Black Members' Place delegate, one (1) Trans Members' Place delegate and one (1) Disabled Place delegate."
 3. New 124-b "No Constituent Member shall have a delegation larger than 8. If a calculation causes the entitlement to exceed 8, places shall be forfeited from the allocation of Open Places.
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Policy passed by Black Caucus

Increased Representation for Black Women

Conference Believes

1. That we are a Feminist campaign.
 2. That 20% of the membership of NUS are Black
 3. Women are an underrepresented group within the LGBT community and in positions of power.
 4. Black people are an underrepresented group within the LGBT community and in positions of power
 5. That currently there is only 1 Black rep on a committee of 18 people
 6. The NUS Black Students Committee has both an LGBT rep (open place) and an LGBT rep (Women's Place)
- 



Conference Further Believes

1. That the LGBT committee should be diverse and representative of our community, whilst also ensuring that all sections get a voice.
2. Having a diverse committee with prominent role models can help improve engagement with our underrepresented groups.
3. Since we introduced reserved places in delegations, Womens and Trans representation at conference has improved, but Black representation is still below adequate.
4. Having 1 person responsible for representing approximately 20% of our campaign is not acceptable.

Conference Resolves

1. To create the position 'Black Students Representative (Womens place)' on the NUS LGBT Committee.
 2. To retain the current Black students Representative position as an open place position for any member who defines as Black.
 3. To amend standing orders 215 to include; "8. One (1) Black Students Representative (Women's Place) elected by and from self-defining Women students of Black students caucus."
 4. To defend reserved places within our delegation, and to work to improve Black representation at our conference and throughout the campaign.
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STONG AND ACTIVE

A trans+ inclusive feminism

Conference believes:

1. That feminism has an undeniable history of transphobia.
2. That gender oppression is felt by all women, be they trans* or cis, and also by non-binary trans* people, intersex people and individuals who do not identify as men or women.
3. That many trans* people are made to feel unwelcome in feminist spaces on our campuses.

Conference further believes:

1. That an inclusive feminism is vital to organise against the patriarchy.
2. That an inclusive feminism should be part of our movement.
3. That NUS LGBT should support the rights of trans* people to be involved in groups into which they self-define.
4. That a trans*-exclusionary or transphobia feminism has no place in our movement.

Conference resolves:

1. To work with the NUS Women's Campaign to ensure that all national feminist campaigns are trans* inclusive.
 2. To work with Unions to ensure that all feminist events and campaigns that students organise at their HE and FE institutions are trans* inclusive.
 3. To ensure that all women only or female only spaces be inclusive of all those who self-identify as women or self-identify as female.
 4. To oppose trans*-exclusionary and transphobic feminism in any form.
 5. To mobilise against those who use feminism as an excuse to attack or deny the existence and experiences of trans* people.
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A More representative, feminist movement





Conference Further Believes:

1. The two campaigns that NUS LGBT has focused on this year (*I saw Daddy kissing Santa* (equal marriage) and *Out in Sport*) both draw emphasis to gay men's issues. *I saw Daddy kissing Santa* positions equal marriage as a gay men's issue whilst the *Out in Sport* campaign has placed the majority of NUS LGBT's resources on an issue that predominantly affects gay men, as opposed to the wider LGBT community.

The conference attendee toolkit

Submitted by: University of Wolverhampton Students' Union LGBT+ Society

Speech for: University of Wolverhampton Students' Union LGBT+ Society

Speech against: free

Summation: (submitter of last successful amendment)


Conference Believes:

1. That NUS LGBT Conference brings together a vast range of students with differing socio-economic backgrounds
2. That NUS LGBT is one of, if not the largest conference held under the NUS umbrella.
3. That since NUS LGBT increased delegate entitlement, conference engagement has risen sharply.
4. That each Students' Union/Guild/Association et al sets its own number of attendees to NUS LGBT Conference (within current prescribed limits).

Conference Further Believes:

1. That some Students' Unions/Guilds/Associations et al do not believe NUS LGBT Conference to be good 'value for money'.
2. That budgetary problems are being commonly blamed for restricting the numbers of delegates being sent to NUS LGBT Conference.
3. That some Students' Unions/Guilds/Associations et al consider NUS LGBT Conference to a waste of time/a non-serious endeavour.
4. That these issues subsist in both FE and HE institutions.
5. That students' are having to find creative means to be able to attend NUS LGBT Conference.
6. That students' are having to make compromises in other areas of LGBT representation in order to be able to attend NUS LGBT Conference, causing some suffering in the system.
7. That some students are put off attending or participating fully in conference due to the inherent complexity of the event. that, while there is an orientation session, this is frequently rushed or missed by delegates who could not get to conference in time for it and can leave little time for questions, unfortunately it is often difficult or time consuming to recap later on.
8. That the NUS LGBT is fortunate to generally have a large number of returning delegates.
9. That a huge number of speeches are allocated beforehand and this can make it difficult for first time delegates to get a foot in the door if they wish to speak.

Conference Resolves:

1. To produce a toolkit giving instruction on how students' can challenge their union/guild/association et al to provide common access to NUS LGBT Conference.
 2. To further support students' to protest against their union/guild/association et al (if appropriate) if they are hitting a management-brick-wall.
 3. To collate information submitted by students who believe their union/guild/association is arbitrarily blocking access to NUS LGBT Conference.
 4. To create video and written guides to common conference features that are clear and
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accessible, including subtitling, transcripts, etc. as appropriate, and can be accessed throughout the year at delegates leisure.

5. That these videos should also be able to be shown at the start of each days motion debates and/or during breaks
 6. To set up a system whereby returning delegates and committee members can sign up to 'buddy' first time delegates who request it to give guidance and support on the way conference works and help include them in the social and networking aspects of conference.
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NUS LGBT Activist Training Days

Conference believes:

1. NUS LGBT has run Activist Training Days (ATDs) since 2007.
2. Activist Training Days, according to the Standing Orders should occur in the first term of each academic year.
3. Activist Training Days were not held in the 2012/13 academic year.
4. That while the NUS LGBT Activist Training Days have been a huge success in the past, the numbers in 2011 dwindled.
5. That often we are not just LGBT students, but belong to another liberation group.
6. That LGBT societies should have an opportunity to meet and learn about other liberation groups.
7. That in the first term of 2012 NUS LGBT held two successful training events, LGBT leadership and Out in Education training.
8. That there is currently no Activist Training event for the Disabled Students campaign

Conference further believes:

1. Activist Training Days should be focussed on developing and strengthening LGBT societies; campaigning and lobbying for change; gaining knowledge on specific LGBT issues; problem-solving; and sharing best practice on issues affecting LGBT students.
2. As a result of the Activist Training Days we have seen many vibrant campaigns run across the UK and important networks built up between local students' union LGBT representatives.
3. Holding Activist Training Days in the first term of each academic year ensures the greatest length of time for students to utilise knowledge gained from them within their own students' unions.
4. Building local and regional networks of students is an extremely effective campaigning tool, allowing both proactive and reactive action.
5. That it is of extreme importance to ensure participation from a diverse range of activists, not just those who define into the NUS LGBT membership.
6. NUS LGBT has a good deal of influence as a national organisation, but it is also important and beneficial to put power into the hands of ordinary student activists.
7. Activist Training Days are often LGBT students' first engagement with activism and/or NUS and are of central significance in the NUS LGBT calendar.
8. That attendance may have dwindled because previous attendees of ATDs did not feel they could gain new knowledge
9. That LGBT liberation will not be an isolated occurrence but will be entwined with liberation of all oppressed groups.
10. That in 2012/3 NUS held a national demonstration which involved many LGBT students and engaged them in activism.
11. That if LGBT societies share their knowledge and experience with other liberation groups, we will achieve liberation as a stronger, united group.
12. Audre Lorde once said "There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single issue lives"



Conference resolves:


1. To continue to champion the training of activists through NUS LGBT Activist Training Days.
2. To advertise these events from the beginning of summer, not just to LGBT students, but to all students' union officers.
3. Where possible, to invite local and regional organisations to Activist Training Days with the aims of helping LGBT Societies;
 - a. Start to build up contacts that could help them gain funding.
 - b. Campaign more effectively at a local level.
 - c. Understand the way that services are delivered in their areas.
4. Where appropriate, to distribute materials from Activist Training Days on the nusconnect website.
5. For the national NUS LGBT Officers to inform their membership if any circumstances lead to Activist Training Days not being run in the first term of an academic year.
6. That the next LGBT activist days will be run in conjunction with the other Liberation campaigns.
7. That there will be chances for intersectional learning as well as LGBT specific knowledge based workshops during LGBT Activist Training Days.
8. That to ensure that both new and experienced officers gain from Activist training days to have two tiers of workshops at the liberation activist training days.


Challenging racism & fascism on our campuses and in our communities

Conference believes:

1. Racism is a scourge in society and our campuses are not immune.
2. The far right mobilisations, such as the fascist English Defence League's (EDL) violent protests and the fascist British National Party (BNP) are a threat to society.
3. That in recent years fascist organisations have attempted to misappropriate the struggles of LGBT people – for example the attempted 'East End Gay Pride' organised by EDL members and supporters in an attempt to drive a wedge between the LGBT and Muslim community.
4. A report in the Guardian found that the EDL had at least 115 members in its gay wing.
5. The German Lesbian and Gay Federation has issued statements citing Muslim immigrants as 'enemies' of gay people and the leader of the fascist 'Front National', Marine Le Pen, has attempted to claim that she 'defends the gay community from Muslims.'

Conference further believes:

1. The BNP is a fascist organisation which stands for an "all white Britain", a goal which can only be achieved by violence, the annihilation of entire groups of people and the ending of democracy.
 2. The EDL are a fascist organisation who are a threat to LGBT, Disabled, Women, Black, Muslim and Jewish students.
 3. That Mark Collett, former chair of the Young BNP said that "AIDS is a friendly disease because Blacks and Gays have it".
 4. That former BNP member David Copeland was responsible for the nail bombings in Brixton, Brick Lane and Soho which attempted to divide the Black and LGBT communities, leaving 7 dead and 139 injured.
 5. BNP leader Nick Griffin and fascist Andrew Brons are standing for re-election to the European Parliament in 2014.
 6. That the issue of free speech is separate from the issue of no platform.
 7. The lesson of the 1930s was that the Nazis used violence to gain power and carry out a Holocaust, slaughtering millions of Jewish people, Eastern Europeans, communists and trade unionists, Romani, LGBT and Disabled people.
 8. The student movement must never give a platform to fascists because fascism seeks to eliminate free speech, democracy and annihilate its opponents and minorities.
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9. Giving fascists a platform in the student movement destroys the safe spaces our campuses must be for Black, Jewish, Muslim, Women, LGBT and Disabled people.
 10. NUS LGBT must actively campaign against fascism, racism, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism as these are dangers which threaten the welfare of our members.

Conference resolves:

1. To actively challenge racism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and fascism on our campuses and in our communities.
 2. To campaign for no platform for fascists within NUS or in our Students' Unions.
 3. Encourage a massive student voter registration drive as part of the campaign to get Griffin and Brons out of the European Parliament in 2014.
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A Liberation League: empowering prospective LGBT students, empowering activists and unions.

Conference Believes

1. That some unions representing LGBT students do not consider funding, supporting or publicising the events and campaigns run by LGBT societies and officers to be important to the general student body.
2. That some student's sports teams are funded because they appear on the BUCS leagues and improve the universities' appearance to prospective students.
3. That for prospective LGBT (and other liberation groups) students, how their union and university/college values LGBT causes, events and problems faced nation-wide is important.
4. That information on this could be beneficial to informing the decisions of LGBT students.

Conference Further Believes

1. Often activists can feel disempowered by the services and support (of lack of) offered by their union/university/college.
2. Often institutions are unable to fulfil the needs of our community because they don't have all the information regarding what student in specific group want and need in the way of support.


Conference Resolves

1. To create a 'Liberation League' whereby students involved in different liberation groups can mark their union and university/college on how well liberation group interests are treated.
 2. To mark this league on both open and closed questions so that students and officers can contribute and state if a union doesn't fulfil a particular requirement on the basis of them being underfunded, a specialist or small university/college.
 3. To have a flexible and unique set of criteria which give an in-depth and fully comprehensive explanation of the problems facing students within the university and the support lent by both the university and union as well as funding etc.
 4. To work with other liberation campaigns within NUS to make a comprehensive cross liberation collection of information which can then be published online and accessed by the general public.
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Don't let the local campaign die - Support the right to LGBT(+)

Conference Believes:



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1. That it is not irreconcilable that there are institutions under the remit of NUS that do not have access to the materials to allow students to set up their own LGBT representation systems/societies/associations.
 2. That it is not irreconcilable that there are institutions under the remit of NUS that have seen their LGBT budgets restricted/removed due to 'budgetary problems'.
 3. That the right to positive student activism is considered a cornerstone of NUS LGBT.

Conference Further Believes:


1. That some Students' Unions/Guilds/Associations et al do not believe LGBT to be a valid cornerstone of student representation.
2. That some Students' Unions/Guilds/Associations et al see LGBT as a no longer relevant factor in their institution and that it should be consigned to history.
3. That some Students' Unions/Guilds/Associations et al see LGBT as a joke.
4. That some Students' Unions/Guilds/Associations et al allow managerial dictatorial ethics to assign budget, in some cases leading to no budget at all for LGBT.
5. That the only thing that saved University of Wolverhampton, Students' Union LGBT Representation was a dedicated (based on results success) campaign forged by a handful of students, coupled with a rebrand to the 'UWSU LGBT+ Society/Campaign'.
6. That students unions/et al in small and specialist institutions face a particular set of difficulties after recent cuts and may not be aware of the importance of LGBT representation
7. That students unions/et al in small and specialist institutions may need extra support from NUS in providing training and information so that LGBT communities and LGBT activism represents the interests of the students.
8. That in 2013 NUS will be providing tailored training to small and specialist colleges
9. That attending LGBT and other liberation conferences should not be seen as a financial burden on unions but as a vital part of developing grassroots activists at student unions


Conference Resolves:

1. To support any students' who wish to rescue an LGBT based campaign society against the wishes of their institution
2. To regularly check on student groups who generally do not liaise with NUS LGBT (i.e. via a courtesy email to the last known email address) just making sure things are okay/offering support
3. To write to any institutions of which students' have expressed concern about the future of the LGBT movement in their institution urging them that LGBT is of great relevance
4. To offer assistance and support to positive LGBT(+) students/activists in the representation of '+ students (i.e. non L, G, B or T but still minority sexuality or gender identity) in 'LGBT' institutions
5. To mandate the LGBT officers to meet with the NUS VP Union development 13-14 and to discuss how to include supporting liberation campaigns and societies as a priority for the union.
6. To look into a reduced price open place delegate for under developed unions to NUS LGBT Conference and/or Activist Training Days.

Trans Representation in the Student Movement

Conference Believes


1. That very few trans students run for sabbatical offices in their SUs;
 2. That even fewer trans students win their elections;
 3. That the No Place for Hate campaign found that 46% of trans students are concerned about disclosing their trans status, 55% have encountered threatening or abusive behaviour, and
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- 20% have been victims of physical abuse.
4. That issues trans students experience often go without notice due to a perceived lack of representation or sympathy within campuses.
 5. That Trans students have experience and knowledge in many fields.
 6. That Trans students are capable of holding non-LGBT specific positions within Students' Unions; such as Academic reps, Events, Mature and Post Graduate officers.
 7. Since the removal of Section 28, there have been many positive advances in LGB representation in Further Education institutions, however the same cannot be said regarding the representation of Trans issues, which is particularly lacking in FE.
 8. This is both a cause and result of a lack of Trans visibility in relation to on campus services, literature, and media
 9. 16-18 is a vitally important developmental period for all young people, and can be decidedly difficult for those questioning their gender identity – around 30% of trans teens (16-19) commit suicide. This is a time where access to appropriate services is vital.
 10. There is also likely to be a disproportionate number of Trans people in FE as Adult Learners, as young trans learners face barriers to FE due to stress, bullying, and/or financial reasons.

Conference Further Believes

1. Trans liberation is best served through the promotion of trans voices;
2. Trans status should not be any barrier to full participation in the student movement;
3. That campuses should be safe areas for all students;
4. That trans students should be able, if they wish, to disclose their status without fear of retribution.
5. That Trans representation is severely lacking both within Students' Unions and public life.
6. That both outside and within the LGBT campaign many people still need to learn the basics about Trans identities.
7. Although NUS LGBT has existing policy encouraging Trans representation in FE, this has not been a priority campaign of the organisation.
8. That when cuts to college funding are made it is often enrichment funding and support facilities, which Trans* and other LGBT students rely on, which are hit first.

Conference Resolves

1. Where CM rules allow, to support and provide resources for trans students who run for sabbatical office;
 2. To continue to support the proliferation and existence of LGBT officers in student unions;
 3. To encourage trans students to run for both LGBT and sabbatical officer positions within their unions;
 4. To provide training resources for all sabbatical officers on trans issues;
 5. To consult with trans members of the LGBT Campaign on how to promote their voices;
 6. To continue to provide support for zero tolerance policies on harassment on campuses.
 7. To encourage Trans students to run for all types of office, not just limited to Trans representation.
 8. To ensure that LGBT and specifically gender pronoun awareness information is available at all NUS events, conferences and training.
 9. That the FE rep and Trans rep should both take ownership of this issue and work together to focus on improving Trans visibility and representation in FE. These reps should also seek to Liaise with VP FE and lobby for some Trans awareness training at the FE Leadership training in summer.
 10. To encourage FE institutions to clearly display literature with specific reference to Trans issues, show sufficient understanding of signposting in their localities, and endeavour to train staff on Trans matters, focusing particularly on 'personal tutors' or similar support staff/schemes
 11. To promote, assist, or work alongside local groups/services that offer support to Trans people in FE.
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Clearer Trans Policy in BUCS

Conference Believes:

1. British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) do not make competition regulation relating to trans students in competitive sports available and accessible publicly.

Conference Further Believes:

1. The lack of clear regulation discourages trans students from being involved in sports, and causes them unnecessary stress in getting clarification of regulation either through BUCS, national governing bodies for sports, or through their unions.

Conference Resolves

1. To lobby BUCS to make competition regulation relating to trans students clearer, publicly available, and easily accessible on their website.
 2. To review whether BUCS competition regulation is inclusive of trans students, and if not, to lobby BUCS to review their regulations to make them more inclusive.
 3. To encourage unions to make competition regulation relating to trans students publicly available and easily accessible on their websites and in their sports offices.
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Keep Wednesday Afternoons Free (from Cissexism)!

Conference Believes

1. Currently, British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) defers to national and international sporting bodies for its rules on trans student participation [1]
2. These rules include but are not limited to requirements of: legal gender recognition, endocrinological intervention, and urological or reproductive surgery.
3. Enforcement of many of these rules, including those operated by the International Olympic Committee, is unlawful within the UK
4. Any CM or Athletic Union disclosing a student's trans status to BUCS without their permission, for the enforcement of these rules or any other purpose, is acting unlawfully

Conference Further Believes

1. Any coerced or forced medical treatment of trans people is an attack on our bodily autonomy
2. Requiring surgery for recognition of gender is classified by the UN Special Rapporteur as an act of torture [2]
3. Any post-surgical time limit amounts to a de facto ban on the majority of trans students competing at all
4. Any restriction on BUCS competition restricts participation in non-BUCS competition, as it requires trans athletes to choose between lying and outing themselves if invited to BUCS events.

Conference Resolves

1. To support BUCS in adopting an evidence based policy on trans participation as required by the Equality Act 2010
2. To support any student who defies BUCS' eligibility rules purely as a result of their trans status
3. That all of the above must be carried out with active consideration of students whose identity does not fall into the male-female binary

[1] http://c1593.r93.cf3.rackcdn.com/BUCS_Transgender_Policy.pdf

SOCIETY AND CITIZENSHIP

No T in Stonewall

Conference Believes

1. That Stonewall describes itself as “the lesbian, gay, and bisexual charity”.
2. That Stonewall has repeatedly refused to campaign on trans issues despite multiple requests from the transgender community.
3. That Stonewall in Scotland, however, do include trans issues in their remit.
4. That Stonewall, in 2008, nominated the transphobic journalist Julie Bindel for their Journalist of the Year award.
5. That, despite protests in 2008, in 2010, Stonewall nominated Bill Leckie for the same award, over criticism from its Scottish chapter due to his transphobic columns.
6. That Stonewall’s anti-bullying film Fit described the word “tranny” as a term of endearment to trans women.
7. That the Stonewall riot was started by trans women and women of color; Sylvia Rivera, one of the central figures of the riot, had often joked that she “threw the second brick”.
8. That Stonewall’s campaigns invariably do not even mention trans people who are not LGB.
9. That since Stonewall, trans people have historically been excluded from the LGBT movement.

Conference Further Believes

1. That there is no place for transphobia in the LGBT movement.
2. That all LGBT campaigns should be trans-inclusive.
3. That Stonewall’s actions constitute unacceptable trans erasure.
4. That Stonewall’s refusal to campaign on wider LGBT issues is also unacceptable.
5. That Stonewall does not represent the views of a trans-inclusive NUS LGBT campaign.

Conference Resolves

1. To condemn Stonewall for perpetuating transphobia and trans erasure within the LGBT community.
 2. To push for Stonewall to include trans issues within their remit.
 3. To nevertheless continue work on bullying, including the Schools Out campaign.
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Recognising non-binary gender identities

Conference believes:

1. Legislation in the United Kingdom recognises only two genders: “female” and “male”.
2. Most institutions, organisations, groups and individuals recognise only two genders: “female” and “male”.
3. All of us are frequently presented with forms that ask us if we are female or male.
4. Some people are neither female, nor male.
5. HESA dictates students’ sex be recorded as one of “male”, “female” or “other”.
6. Many universities and colleges allow students’ sex or gender to be either recorded as a third option or withheld.
7. UCAS, and some universities do not provide such options on their application forms.

Conference further believes:

1. There are a wide range of non-binary gender identities, which include genderfluidity,

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- androgyny, genderqueer, bi-gender and a-gender, amongst others.
2. Non-binary individuals may live permanently as men, women or neither, or may shift between social gender roles.
 3. Individuals with non-binary identities may have difficulty accessing public services and facilities, ranging from public toilets to sexual health clinics.
 4. Individuals with non-binary identities have their genders systematically erased by a society that frequently refuses to accept non-binary titles, pronouns and modes of dress.
 5. The failure of trans provisions in the Equality Bill to fully include individuals with non-binary identities meant that a great opportunity was missed.
 6. A less gendered society will be beneficial in the wider fight against homophobia, transphobia and sexism.
 7. It would benefit, among others, prospective students with non-binary genders to be able to apply under their correct gender.
 8. It is both inconsistent and harmful to force students who wish to change or withhold their gender to do so only after applying under a binary gender.

Conference resolves:

1. To lobby the Government Equality Office to recognise the existence of non-binary gender identities.
 2. To lobby equality organisations (such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission) that pursue trans rights agendas to fully incorporate non-binary issues into their work.
 3. To lobby UCAS to provide additional gender options.
 4. To work for the recognition of non-binary identities in all areas of public life, including education, healthcare, and the media.
 5. To support student activists and LGBT societies who wish to lobby their Unions or institutions on non-binary issues, such as the inclusion of more than two genders on records and application forms.
 6. To fight against the de facto collection of title and gender as mandatory fields on forms when it is not relevant nor absolutely necessary for the provision of the service offered by the data handler.
 7. To provide a toolkit to aid student activists who wish to make such changes, containing for example, information countering common arguments given by universities and colleges against such changes.
 8. To mandate the NUS LGBT Officers to work with the NUS, and through its democratic processes, to ensure all of its policies and constitution contain only gender neutral pronouns, without changing the meaning of those policies and constitution."
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LGBT Young People in Care

Conference Believes:

1. That the education on sex, sexuality and relationships young LGBT people who under the care of their local authority receive varies from borough to borough.
2. That this education also depends on the openness of foster parents, social workers, and staff in care homes.
3. That social workers, foster parents and staff have no obligation, universal information and framework for educating young people on sexuality or gender identity.
4. That because of the lack of information and strain on the time of social workers, most young people in care receive only a basic education on mainly heterosexual sex and relationships and contraception and cisgender identities.

Conference Further Believes:



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1. That Lisa Handy, co-ordinator of the Sex Forum at National Children's Bureau stated that looked after children and young people 'may never have seen a healthy and consensual relationship in practise'.
 2. That mental health problems have been reported as more prominent in LGBT people for a range of reasons including isolation and discrimination.
 3. That LGBT people, and care leavers are both underrepresented in the populations of our higher and further educational institutes.
 4. That because of that LGBT care leavers are a practically invisible population in education at all, specifically post-16 education.
 5. That both workers and foster parents who are overwhelmingly heterosexual may struggle with the ever evolving language surrounding sexuality and the procedures surrounding support for trans* identities.

Conference Resolves

1. To produce a handbook to for staff, foster parents and social workers to demystify language.
 - To include in this; advice on how to include LGBT identities in their sex education.
 - To educate them on how to support young LGBT people in care when coming out about their gender identity or sexuality.
 - To help educate staff on the ways in which young LGBT people experience discrimination and to verbally confront homophobia and transphobia in the living environments of young LGBT people in care.
2. To produce a short handbook for LGBT Young People that educates them on consent, sexuality, and assures them they're not alone.

Inclusion of Non-Binary Trans* People within the NHS


Conference Believes:


1. That the situation for transgender people in the UK seeking treatment and support from the NHS is a difficult and arduous process for many.
2. That many non-binary trans* people frequently lie to their health care providers about their gender identity in order to receive treatment or to be taken seriously.
3. That for many non-binary trans* people, seeking treatment on the NHS for their gender identity can be a cause of frustration, anxiety, and upset, which implicitly has a negative affect on physical and mental health.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the NHS has a right to treat and care for all its transgender patients, regardless of whether their gender identity does or does not conform to traditional models of binary existence.
2. That within the latest WPATH 'Standards of Care for the Health of Transsexual, Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming People', 7th Edition (2011), it explicitly mentions 'respect for patients with nonconforming gender identities', and health care providers should 'provide care that affirms patients' gender identities and reduces the distress of gender dysphoria...match the treatment approach to the specific needs of patients, particularly their goals for gender expression and need for relief from gender dysphoria' (p. 3)
3. That many NHS health care providers across the UK are still not implementing the latest standards of care.

Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to lobby the NHS to implement the WPATH Standards of Care 7th Edition fully.
 2. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to stage peaceful demonstrations around the UK highlighting the need for non-binary recognition and treatment within the NHS.
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3. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to communicate with the General Medical Council to ensure health care providers around the UK are adhering to the standards of care.
 4. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to provide resources to GICs around the UK regarding the importance of treating non-binary trans* individuals in order to alleviate mental and physical stress, and encourage them to practice the latest WPATH Standards of Care in their clinic.
 5. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to conduct a survey of non-binary trans* people with regards to their experiences accessing care and treatment on the NHS, and to use the results within the lobbying as mentioned above.
 6. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to remember that trans* people in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland often suffer from a lack of adequate health care due to the specific nuances in the NHS inherent in those countries, e.g. a smaller number of doctors, GICs, widespread rural populations and a lack of good transport networks etc, and specific attention should be paid to these areas so further marginalisation will not occur.

Resources:

<http://www.wpath.org/documents/Standards%20of%20Care%20V7%20-%202011%20WPATH.pdf>

Smash the Gender Recognition Act

Conference Believes

1. Following *Christine Goodwin v The United Kingdom*, Case No 28957/1995, the Gender Recognition Act (2004) was introduced to allow trans men and women the right to privacy and marriage. Under the Act, a person seeking recognition must provide evidence of having lived in their gender for 2 years to the government's Gender Recognition Panel
2. The Act implicitly excludes intersex people, and makes no provision for non-binary gender identity
3. The Act was an historic advance in protection for some trans people, but can only be a stepping stone to full trans equality

Conference Further Believes

1. Following European rulings on insurance and pensions, and with the advent of marriage equality, there is no legitimate reason to record sex as a matter of legal fact
2. Treating gender as a matter of legal fact impedes the struggle against sexism, heterosexism and violence against women
3. Government regulation of individual gender is an attack on the autonomy and right to personal identity of all people
4. Government recording of individual gender and trans status places trans people at further risk of oppression and violence
5. Ending government regulation of gender does not preclude voluntary acknowledgement of gender to target services, support and protection for vulnerable groups

Conference Resolves

1. To campaign to end the mandatory, immutable recording of gender on birth, marriage (or partnership) and death certificates
 2. To campaign to end the legal notion of gender as a regulated list of acceptable identities
 3. To demand the replacement of the Gender Recognition Act with a system of self-identification and the strengthening and extension of the protections that the Act affords to persons of all gender identities and histories without need for government registration
 2. That all of the above will be pursued in a way which actively reinforces the struggle against sexism, heterosexism and violence against women.
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Stronger Community Campaigns

Conference Believes:

1. Discrimination experienced by LGBT students can involve non-student members of the local community.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Many LGBT groups focus their campaigns primarily within the union and aim campaigns at the student population.
2. Collaborative campaigns with community LGBT groups can achieve greater outreach than separate campaigns.

Conference Resolves


1. To encourage LGBT groups to support outreach campaigns lead by community LGBT groups.
 3. To encourage LGBT groups to develop a strong relationship with relevant officers in the local police constabulary.
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Celebrating Pink Parents and Pink Families

Conference believes:

1. The LGBTQAU community has a rich culture of diversity, acceptance, self expression and love to offer children, and this should be celebrated.
2. There should be more positive images and role models of LGBTQAU parenting, for instance images of loving devoted drag kings and scene queen parents. We must challenge the stereotype that the only way to be a loving devoted parent is to model a straight cis-gendered heterosexual family.
3. Many LGBTQAU people enter into or remain in straight relationships and marriages because they want to have children.
4. Many LGBTQAU people who want children feel that they will not become parents because they are LGBTQAU
5. Student parents are often excluded from SUs activities, events and democracy by a lack of family friendly activities, childcare resources, attitudes or inappropriately timed meetings
6. Student parents are often excluded from SUs bars and cafes because they have no safe space to go to with their children e.g a child friendly café with toys.
7. LGBTQAU parents are often excluded from both parenting events and LGBTQAU events.
8. Many Out and Proud pink parents re-enter the closet as they are overwhelmed by the heteronormativity of services for parents, or concerned that their children might experience homophobic bullying.
9. A wonderful thing about the SU movement is that it speaks up for members who cannot speak up for themselves.

Conference Further Believes:

10. Despite the fact that student parents constitute a huge proportion of the student demographic we often can't turn up to SU meetings to make our voice heard due to a lack of family friendly resources in SUs.
 11. Some of student parents access needs can be easily and cheaply remedied by provision of simple facilities e.g. highchairs and toys in cafes, baby changing facilities, a private area to breast feed.
 12. Some needs are legislative changes such as a period of maternity leave from courses and
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- better grants for parents.
13. Due to exponentially rising fees and increasing student poverty, children of students can easily become caught in the poverty trap.
 14. LGBTQAU parents should have a central voice in NUS student parents' plan and government Children's Plan.

Conference Resolves:

1. Mandate NUS LGBT committee to include a dedicated section of the NUS LGBT handbook/website to pink parenting issues. This section should include issues such as personal experiences of student pink parents, and ideas for pink family events to be run by student unions.
 2. To hold a pink caring responsibilities caucus and create a LGBTQAU caring responsibilities rep on LGBT committee.
 3. To provide a best practice guide to SU's and a LGBTQAU parent's manifesto to the government.
 2. To mandate NUS LGBT committee to represent student LGBT parents and to promote a diverse range of positive LGBT parent images as responsible loving devoted parents in order to combat the stereotypes
 3. To replace all instances of 'LGBTQAU' with 'LGBT'.
 4. To replace all instances of 'pink' [parents and/or families] with 'LGBT' [parents and/or families].
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POLICY LAPSE – Kept from 2010


Experiencing work, not discrimination

Conference believed:

1. That terms such as "work experience", "internships" and "placements" can refer to temporary paid or unpaid work that a student undertakes to experience the professional working environment of a certain sector.
2. That the duration of a work experience placement can vary from a few hours to several months.
3. That prospective university students, including those at FE institutions, are encouraged to acquire work experience to aid their applications for certain courses.
4. That in response to graduate employers' increasing emphasis on relevant work experience (AGR: 2008), HE students are encouraged to acquire as much work experience as possible to increase their chances of employment on graduation.
5. That work experience placements are an integral and required part of certain types of degree programmes, including (but not limited to) sandwich courses and those in health and social care.
6. That the Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2003 state it is unlawful for providers of vocational training to discriminate against the recipient of such training on the grounds of sexual orientation.
7. That the Sex Discrimination (Gender Reassignment) Regulations 1999 state it is unlawful for providers of vocational training to discriminate against the recipient of such training on the grounds that the recipient is undergoing, has undergone or plans to undergo gender reassignment.

Conference further believed:

1. That students often have little to no contact with or support from their institutions when they are on work experience.
 2. That students on work experience may be reluctant to report discrimination or harassment to their placement supervisor at the organisation because of their status relative to paid staff members and their desire to acquire a reference from and/or future employment with the organisation.
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3. That students may be reluctant to report LGBT discrimination or harassment experienced during placement to their supervisor and/or institution because, by doing so, they feel they have to disclose their sexuality or gender identity.
 4. That students may be unaware of their workplace rights when they are on placement.

Conference resolved:


1. To lobby FE and HE institutions to establish processes through which which homophobic, biphobic and transphobic discrimination and harassment on the part of a placement provider can be reported anonymously and confidentially.
 2. To discourage institutions from penalising placement students who have experienced LGBT discrimination should they fail to complete or perform adequately on their placements as a result of such discrimination.
 3. To encourage institutions to fully support, guide and advise students who are subject to discrimination or harassment on the grounds of sexuality and/or gender identity, particularly if they should decide to pursue criminal or legal action against the placement provider.
 4. To campaign for institutions to establish and maintain relationships with placement-providing organisations that can demonstrate a commitment against workplace LGBT discrimination.
 5. To work with the National Council for Work Experience (NCWE), alongside careers services and placement staff at FE and HE institutions, to provide and promote information to students about LGBT workplace rights.
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Liberate Prisons Now!

Conference believes:

1. LGBT People are disproportionately represented in prison
2. Prisons Should be a Central part of our Society
3. The State uses crime as a political tool to control society and to win elections
4. Progressive campaigns believe crime is a by product of a an active society.
5. That there is currently no guidance by the Offender Policy and Rights Unit on LGBT issues within UK prisons.
6. HIV and Hepatitis infections in UK prisons are 15 and 20 times that of the outside population, respectively.
7. That prisons often fail to provide condoms / protective equipment for prisoners. If prisons do supply condoms, that supply is strictly limited.
LGBT prisoners often are placed in Vulnerable Prisoners Units by staff as a matter of course
8. There are no current statistics on how many LGBT people are currently incarcerated in UK prisons
9. Trans prisoners are often kept in facilities determined by their birth gender and not by their current gender identity.
10. That the Bent Bars Project is a letter-writing project for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, gender-variant, intersex, and queer prisoners in Britain, on a pen-pal basis.

Conference further believed:

1. The western world has disproportionate numbers of prisoners to the developing world and specifically the developed world has more prisons compared to its population than in the developing world and compared to its populations.
 2. Not all criminals are bad people; the crime is bad, not the person.
 3. That Trans people often suffer specific issues when it comes to the current prison structure and the structure of the criminal justice system as it stands specifically discriminates against trans people by the gendered nature of prisons and lack of understanding of trans issues.
 4. That the work the Howard league for penal reform carry out is something any true progressive movement should stand in strong support of and this campaign fully beliefs in the ethos and
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- values of prison abolition.
5. That the institutional discrimination against LGBT people in prisons constitutes a double punishment – people are punished once for their crime and again for their sexuality and/or gender identity
 6. That by not producing any guidance on LGBT prisoners, relevant authorities are effectively turning a blind eye to the endemic homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in our prisons.
 7. Failing to provide condoms encourages unsafe and irresponsible behaviour in practice.
 8. That the existence of a Vulnerable Prisoners Unit does not provide a meaningful excuse for not combating homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in the wider prison.


Conference resolved:

1. Campaign for the right of people in prison to access education and training
 2. Work with the Howard league for Penal Reform and other prison abolition organisations to provide Information to Student Unions on Prison abolition and reform and how they can campaign for reform, abolition and help educational services at Prisons near to them
 3. To Work with NUS VP Welfare, VP HE and FE to ensure prisoners are included in NUS's wider participation work
 4. To support Prisoner education programs and getting all prisoners but specifically LGBT prisoners into further and higher education
 5. Invite the Howard league for penal reform to send a speaker to next NUS LGBT annual conference
 6. Carry out a Howard league for penal reform workshops by committee or by external speaker at all activist training days taking a lead from the women's campaign that did a similar thing last year
 7. To launch a campaign named Liberate Prisons Now! Looking into the numbers of LGBT people in prison the support they get and the discrimination they face areas such as Trans prisoners in segregation or in wrong prisons to their defined genders, abuse of sexuality in prisons, HIV awareness and support, relationship awareness advice and support and sexual health services. And working closely with the VP welfare and welfare committee and other liberation campaigns to support a wider more integrated campaign.
 8. To actively promote engagement with the Bent Bars pen-pal scheme with LGBT prisoners to constituent members and other groups.
 9. To write to the Home Office and HM Prison service asking them to produce an impact assessment on LGBT prisoners, proper guidance on how to support LGBT prisoners and adequate condom/protective equipment provision in all prisons.
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For a sensible approach to drugs

Conference believed:

1. That LGB People are 3 times more likely to take MDMA, 8 times more likely to take Ketamine and 25 times more likely to take Crystal Meth than then their straight counterparts.
 2. That there is currently no reliable statistics on drug use in the trans community.
 3. That approximately a third of adults in the UK have tried an illegal drug in their lifetime.
 4. That since the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 was enacted drug use in the UK has risen by 300% and heroin use by 1000%
 5. That the Lancet study found alcohol to be the 5th most harmful recreational drug available in the UK, more harmful than Ketamine (Class C, 6th), Amphetamines (Class B, 8th), Cannabis (Class C, 12th), LSD (Class A, 15th), GHB (Class, C18th) and Ecstasy (Class, A19th).
 6. In late October 2009, the Home Secretary sacked the head of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, Professor David Nutt, because his scientific evidence was different to that of government policy.
 7. That 57% of LGBT young people feel that there is not enough unbiased education about drug use
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- which is accessible to the LGBT community.
8. Students for Sensible Drug Policy UK is an organisation which campaigns for a evidence based drug policy and a harm minimisation approach. It has an active LGBT caucus.

Conference further believed:

1. That the use of recreational drugs has very real harms to physical health and to society.
2. That the best drug policy is one that seeks to minimise the harms associated with drug use through an evidence based approach and through unbiased education.
3. That the arbitrary nature of current drug classification is not based in scientific evidence, and that this can only lead to increased harms as policy does not reflect reality.
4. That issues surrounding drug use is especially relevant in the LGBT community due to our increased likelihood to take drugs.
5. That the lack of unbiased evidence surrounding drugs and their harms leads to people taking unnecessary risks with regard to their health.
6. That the Government's current drug policy fails to reduce the harms associated with recreational drugs, and can be considered counterproductive.

Conference resolved:

1. To affiliate to Students for Sensible Drug Policy UK and work with them on appropriate campaigns.
 2. To run a session on "drug use in the LGBT community" at NUS Activist Training Day.
 3. To mandate the LGBT Officers to write to the Home Office asking for an impact assessment of drug prohibition on LGBT people.
 4. To mandate the LGBT Officers to write to the Home Office calling for an evidence based approach to drug laws, focussing on harm reduction.
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Supporting Queer Homeless Youth


Conference believed:

1. That, due to estrangement, many queer young people become homeless. This leads to worse performance compared to peers and limits access to further and higher education.
2. That in the period from 1989-2002, 450 queer youth reported to their local authorities dealing with homelessness.
3. That this figure is probably much higher, given that not all young people who are homeless will tell local authorities, and that not all homeless people will disclose their sexuality.
4. That, while LGBT youth are disproportionately affected, specialist provision is rarely available.
5. That the Albert Kennedy Trust is an organisation that supports queer homeless youth.

Conference further believed:

1. That all LGBT students should be able to access further and higher education and be completely supported while in education.
2. That, as students, we should extend solidarity to queer homeless youth and make it possible for everyone to enjoy the same advantages as we do.

Conference resolved:

1. To encourage LGBT+ Societies to run fundraisers for the Albert Kennedy Trust.
 2. To offer to assist the Albert Kennedy Trust in their research and activities.
 3. To encourage Universities, colleges and Students' Unions to set up emergency funds for estranged LGBT students
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LGBT-inclusive Personal Care

Conference believed:

1. A motion was passed at the 2010 Disabled Students conference to run a campaign highlighting the difficulties disabled students find obtaining personal care.
2. The campaign also wants to set up a pilot telephone line for disabled students struggling with personal care, accommodation and financial issues

Conference further believed:

1. That LGBT students should be entitled to an LGBT positive experience with all staff members they come in to contact with during study.
2. That the LGBT community is diverse and includes disabled students.
3. That LGBT issues are often considered low priority in terms of support staff training and this is a particular issue for personal care.

Conference resolved:

1. To work with the Disabled students campaign to ensure that the personal care campaign is inclusive of LGBT issues
2. To offer LGBT training to the telephone line volunteers in the form of briefings and workshops so that they may be able to deal with LGBT specific enquiries.

Poly People

Conference believed:


1. That 'Polyamory' (poly) is the practice, desire, or acceptance of having more than one intimate relationship at a time with the knowledge and consent of everyone involved. It is sometimes referred to as "responsible non-monogamy".
2. That poly people have traditionally attended Prides and other LGBT events.
3. That between 30 and 67% of gay male couples are in a non-monogamous relationships (Coleman 2001).
4. That in recent years the unofficial 'poly caucus' has grown in popularity.

Conference further believed:

1. That the LGBT community has traditionally been at the forefront of embracing non-conventional forms of relationships and relationship structures.
2. That although not all poly people are LGBT, and that not all LGBT people are poly, we face similar issues and a common oppression.
3. That heteronormativity has as much invested in monogamy and the concept of the 'nuclear family' as it does patriarchy, and gender binaries.
4. That in order to effectively oppose heteronormativity we must also oppose the assumption that everyone is monogamous.

Conference resolves:

1. To ensure that any material produced does not presume that people are in monogamous relationships and where deletions have to be made to existing material to change wording to more appropriate terminology.
 2. To organise a poly caucus at each LGBT event where caucuses are held.
 3. To invite poly activists to present at activist training days
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4. To work with poly activists to produce educational materials and guides for uni groups to make them more welcoming to poly people
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Trans Inclusion in FE

Conference believed:

1. Trans-related issues affect over 100 16-19 year olds a year in the UK.
2. Around 30% of teens during this transition commit suicide.
3. Many of these 16-19 year olds will be studying in FE.
4. Currently, NUS only has one policy on Trans students in FE regarding the promotion of gender-neutral toilets.
5. Colleges are just starting to realise that there are LGB students studying in their institutions and the importance of their inclusion.
6. Many colleges are not aware that trans students exist, let alone study in their institutions

Conference further believed:

1. NUS LGBT Campaign has done fantastic work supporting LGB students and officers in FE.
2. NUS LGBT needs focus on the promotion and inclusion of Trans students in FE.
3. NUS LGBT should continue to promote Trans inclusion within FE, including and especially gender-neutral toilets.
4. LSIS (Learning and Skills Improvement Service) has been working on DVDs for FE colleges about the inclusion of LGB and T students.

Conference resolved:

1. To revisit the LGBT History month briefing and add in explicit sections on Trans inclusion for HE and FE.
 2. To mandate NUS LGBT to campaign for colleges to include trans issues in their mandatory Equality & Diversity staff training.
 3. To produce a guide for students, ensuring it's also relevant to FE students, regarding Trans health and well-being including but not limited to: illegal hormones, binding dangers, sexual health and mental health.
 4. To help promote the LSIS trans DVD to FE colleges and provide materials and training for:
 - a. Breaking down transphobia and gender binary.
 - b. The benefits of gender-neutral toilets and changing rooms with cubicles.
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Homophobic Bullying in Schools and Colleges

Conference believed:

1. Homophobic bullying is endemic in Britain's schools and colleges; 65% of young lesbian, gay and bisexual pupils have been victims.
2. Most schools and colleges in the UK do not currently have a homophobic bullying policy.
3. Of those that do, many do not effectively put it in to practice.
4. Stonewall has published an in-depth report highlighting the effects of homophobic bullying.
5. The government's Department for Children, Schools and Families has also published a guidance pack for schools which sets out ways of dealing with all aspects of homophobic bullying.
6. Only 23% of young gay people have been told that homophobic bullying is wrong in their school. In these schools, homophobic bullying is 60% less likely to occur.

Conference further believed:



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1. 70% of pupils who are bullied because of their sexuality state that this has had a negative impact on their school work.
 2. Half of those who have experienced homophobic bullying have skipped school at some point because of it; one in five has skipped school more than six times.
 3. NUS LGBT has a duty not only to its current FE members but also to those in the earlier stages of education who might one day sit on conference floor.

Conference resolved:

1. To communicate with schools and colleges about the importance of having and implementing a homophobic bullying policy.
 2. To work with groups such as Exceeding Expectations and Schools Out to help ensure LGBT issues are discussed in schools.
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EMERGENCY MOTIONS

Motion: Protection of funding for gender-related healthcare interventions.

Conference believes:


1. As a part of the 'Health and Social Care Act (2012)', the funding of treatment and policy setting will shift from being the responsibility of Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and Specialist Commissioning Groups (SCGs) to being that of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs).
2. 'Gender services' are to be classified as 'specialised services' within the NHS
3. Specialised services will be commissioned centrally by the NHS Commissioning Board.
4. As a result, there will be one national policy for 'gender services' for England, with a single set of service specifications determining which services will be provided in any given area.
5. It has been stated that there will be "no new money" for specialised commissioning, meaning that local and regional budgets for these services will be pooled centrally, and the only way to increase spending on a specialised service will be by reducing funding to from another specialised service.
6. The number of people referred for gender-related healthcare intervention has risen by 20% per annum since 2011, and from 1998-2011 by 11% per annum.¹
7. Waiting lists for gender-related interventions have grown exponentially, and continue to grow.

Conference further believes:

1. As a result of this standardisation, service provision in some areas will worsen.
2. The NHS should be seeking to adopt 'best-practice' nationally, and not reduce the quality or range of treatment available in some areas for the sake of standardisation.
3. There is a diversity of need with regard to gender-related healthcare intervention, and this should be reflected in the service specification.
4. Not reflecting this diversity of need is both clinically and financially irresponsible, since those who require less intervention can have less input at a reduced cost, freeing money for other patients.
5. Effective treatment does not come solely from GICs, but instead requires collaboration between these services and those provided by local primary care and by community mental health services.

1 . <http://www.gires.org.uk/Prevalence2011.pdf>



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4. 6. There is insufficient provision of gender-related healthcare interventions to meet current demand.

Conference resolves:

1. To lobby for the NHS commissioning board to:
 - I. have a real-terms increase in the amount of money spent on, and invested in, gender-related healthcare intervention in order to meet increased demand and reduce waiting lists, and;
 - II. work with stakeholder groups (such as NUS LGBT, GIRES, PfC, and THM) to ensure a diverse range of service options suited to anyone falling outside of the gender binary, and not just a 'standard case', and;
 - III. Provide direction to CCGs with regard to the provision of local services for gender-related healthcare interventions.
2. To encourage CCGs to work with stakeholder groups in the planning of the provision of local services for gender-related healthcare interventions (such as electrolysis, speech therapy and counselling).



Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2014:

Education

Motion 101: End Degree Certificate Discrimination!

Conference Believes

1. Currently most Universities do not allow alumni who have transitioned after completing their studies to obtain degree certificates matching their new name and title.
2. Furthermore some universities and colleges do not allow their students to register with titles that are widely used among non-binary students, such as Mx, Misc, and Pr.
3. As a consequence of this it is impossible for these non-binary students to graduate with a degree certificate that accurately reflects their identity.
4. These restrictions are frequently justified as being necessary to prevent fraud.

Conference further Believes

1. That alumni that have transitioned should not be forced to risk outing themselves to future employers.
2. Further, that the justification based on preventing fraud is disingenuous, as many other documents can be obtained with changed names and titles merely with a deed poll or statutory declaration.
3. That policies of not reissuing degree certificates and not permitting non-binary titles creates systematic discrimination against trans* students and alumni.


Conference Resolves

1. To lobby universities to provide a service whereby alumni can have degree certificates reissued in the event of a change of name or title.
2. To ensure that these services do not present unnecessary obstacles to alumni who wish to have certificates reissued.
3. To ensure that these services are free of charge.
4. To lobby universities and colleges to offer the option of non-gender-binary titles to their students.
5. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to submit a motion on this issue to the next NUS National Conference.

Motion 102: Education/Teachers

Conference Believes

1. Bullying in schools has a negative impact on LGBT people throughout their education
2. The School Report showed that one in three or 32% of students considered changing their educational path as a result of homophobic bullying
3. A growing number of students in FE and HE, undergraduate and postgraduate, are required to spend part of their course on placement away from their educational institution.
4. Students on placement may be the only student from their institution at their placement organisation.
5. Students on placement are not permanent or full members of staff at their placement organisation.
6. That money provides a significant barrier to LGBT people training to become teachers, teaching assistants, etc.
7. That LGBT phobia in education extends to attitudes towards LGBT staff.

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8. That where LGBT staff are accepted and welcomed this helps create environments that are supportive for LGBT students and encourages acceptance of LGBT people by non-LGBT students.
 9. That more LGBT teaching staff within the education system cannot fail to be a positive thing.

Conference Further Believes


1. Section 28 although repealed, has left significant ambiguity over the role of teachers in promoting tolerance and acceptance of LGBT identities
2. We know that around only one in ten teachers challenge homophobic language
3. Primary and secondary schools are vital in eradicating the oppression of LGBT people in society
4. Bullying and harassment in education is not confined to schools, our colleges and universities are also places where LGBT people can be victimised.
5. Because of non-permanent placements students often find it more difficult to come out on placement for fear that they will be treated differently, or not supported in the same way a permanent member of staff would be.
6. Some placement organisations do not have clear policy and guidance that would support a student coming out on placement (i.e. complaints procedures which include LGBT-phobic bullying, etc.)
7. Student teachers on placements face particular problems when coming out as a member of staff in a school. Many are afraid to challenge LGBT-phobic bullying for fear of being outed themselves.
8. That there is a chronic lack of support for LGBT teaching staff and student teachers in dealing with LGBT phobia from students and staff.
9. That many Trans student teachers are forced to complete teaching placements as their assigned gender rather than the gender they identify as.


Conference Resolves

1. To work with teachers unions and trainee teachers to include LGBT people in curriculums and understand role of teachers in promoting LGBT acceptance
2. To produce a guide of what to look for when deciding whether it is safe to come out whilst on placement. The guide should include what protection there is by law, how to find organisation's policies which supports LGBT+ staff, social aspects such as supportive colleagues, an environment which challenges LGBT-phobic attitudes, and practical advice on how to come out on placement.
3. Where possible the NUS LGBT campaign should work with other trade unions which are present in various placement institutions/businesses to work towards safer environments for LGBT+ students on placements.
4. Points of contact in other unions which students may be a member of should be included in the guide, for example the NASUWT LGBT advisory committee, etc.
5. To work with Teaching unions and organisations such as Schools out to provide proactive support for LGBT teaching staff and student teachers within their schools, colleges and universities.
6. To work with Teaching unions and other organisations to encourage institutions to create bursaries for LGBT people seeking to become teaching staff.

Motion 103: Defend Further Education – fight the unfair welfare cut!

Conference Believes

1. That since the beginning of this coalition government, cuts have been made across many sectors, including education.
 2. Further Education has been hit hard by the cuts, with average cuts of at least 25%
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3. The government has recently announced a series of further cuts, including a 19% cut to the Adult Skills budget and a 17.5% cut for 18 year old students in college (amounting to around a £700-800 cut per student).
 4. The justification being given for this particular cut is that students who are 18 when they start a course at college have already had access to two years of post-16 information, advice and guidance.

Conference Further Believes


1. It is widely acknowledged that information, advice and guidance in schools is inadequate, meaning that many students may not be aware of all their options (including Further Education) on leaving compulsory education.
2. Often students who are 18 when they start a course in college have delayed their entry for a reason – either personal circumstances or being failed by the education system the first time round.
3. One area likely to suffer as a result of this funding cut is student counselling and welfare support. This means that students requiring support for mental health, family issues, addiction etc. may not be able to access college services.
4. LGBT students are already more likely to experience mental ill health and family conflict than their peers. Taking away counselling services would only exacerbate these issues.
5. An equality impact assessment by the Association of Colleges found that this cut will have a disproportionate impact on Black students and students from more disadvantaged areas, as well as Women, who make up the majority of students in FE.
6. An e-petition has been started on epetitions.direct.gov.uk against the cut as a whole and currently holds 7,467 signatures.

Conference Resolves

1. To promote the online petition to get the 100,000 signatures needed for it to be discussed in the House of Commons.
 2. To mandate the NUS LGBT Officers to work with the VP FE to identify and highlight how this cut will affect LGBT students in colleges.
 3. To support FE unions campaigning against this cut, be that by petitions, lobbying local MPs, action days, walk-outs or occupations.
 4. To lobby all political parties (including the Labour party who have yet to condemn this cut) to defend Further Education funding and oppose this cut.
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Motion 104: Access to Education

Conference Believes

1. Education is a tool for liberation
 2. LGBT students have a right to further and higher education if they wish
 3. Educational environments, including social spaces and halls of residence, should be welcoming and free from discrimination
 4. LGBT people and perspectives are often absent in our curriculums and we as students have a right to see our lives reflected in our learning
 5. A report into LGB young people found that 1 in 3 LGB people considered changing their educational path because of bullying due to sexual orientation, and anecdotally we know that this would be even higher for Trans students.
 6. We have seen that Bi and Trans students are more likely to drop out with one of the reasons cited being the feeling of not fitting in.
 7. Currently HE and FE students are ignored by their institution, with little or no effort made to recognise LGBT students as a protected characteristic worthy of specialist attention.
 8. In November 2011 NUS LGBT published a report called 'No Place for Hate – NUS Report on LGBT Hate Crime'.
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9. The definition of a 'hate crime' is: any hate incident, which constitutes a criminal offence, perceived by the victim or any other person as being motivated by prejudice or hate in regards to their race, sexuality, gender identity, or disability".
 10. The study which lead to the publication of the report 'No Place for Hate' published the following results:
 - Twenty per cent of LGB students surveyed had experienced homophobic verbal abuse, threats of violence or threatening behaviour.
 - Twenty per cent of trans students surveyed reported being a victim of threatening, abusive or insulting words, threatening behaviour or threats of violence. The eighty eight per cent of the respondents believed the most serious incident(s) to be motivated by a prejudice against their gender identity.
 11. Forty five per cent of the incidents reported by the correspondents showed the perpetrator(s) were believed to be students – often fellow students at the victim's institution.
 12. The report found that most incidents were not reported by the victims. Reasons for not reporting included (but were not limited to): lack of faith in the criminal justice system, personal fears or concerns, and the view that the incident was not 'worth' reporting.
 13. Finally, victims of homophobic, biphobic and transphobic incidents experienced, as a consequence of the incidents, higher levels of depression, anxiety, difficulty with sleeping and other symptoms of post-traumatic stress than victims of non-prejudiced incidents of similar severity.
 14. LGBT students face more discrimination in our educational system and, as a consequence suffer within achievement and retention rates.
 15. Formative assessment and a drive towards exams rather than coursework to achieve qualifications has a detrimental impact on LGBT students achievements.

Conference Further Believes

1. That this year (2014) we have conducted research into the experiences of LGBT students.
2. The initial trends from the research showed the majority of respondents were not active in their LGBT society.
3. That bi respondents were less 'out' than their Lesbian and gay counterparts, and were more likely to consider dropping out of education.
4. Trans students are much more likely to report a form of harassment or bullying - almost 1 in 3 reported at least one form of transphobic harassment on campus - and they systematically feel less included than all other respondents
5. Overall, LGBT respondents were less likely to answer they are extremely satisfied with their experience at university.
6. For many lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans (LGBT) students, college and university is a time where they are able to explore and define their gender and/or sexual identities, unrestrained by previous school and family life.
7. Universities and Colleges are supposed to be a safe environment for all students to find themselves and a place where they can further their education, their future careers.
8. Universities and Colleges should be taking a firm stance against all forms of discrimination and prejudice against students' sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
9. We want our student unions and education institutions to be model environment for students to reach their full potential without being harassed or abused.
10. Education should be a positive, life changing experience, not a negative one.
11. This government is implementing policy to disallow A level students to have access to three years for A levels and this could damage students achievement rates and progression due to bullying, mental health or family estrangement

Conference Resolves

1. To work with the NUS Vice President Higher Education and Vice President Further Education to put the findings of our research high in the priority of Students Union Officers and Vice Chancellors
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2. Lobby institutions to anonymously and securely collect information on LGBT students access and experience of their education.
 3. To call for better provision of services for LGBT students, including access to counselling, mentors and specialist training for teachers and lecturers
 4. To call for mandatory LGBT inclusive policies for halls of residences
 5. To renew our campaign for Gender Neutral Toilets on every campus, and collect data and case studies on successes.
 6. To work with institutions on clear procedures on how to report and deal with homophobic, biphobic and transphobic behaviours on campus.
 7. To support and encourage LGBT societies to be more inclusive of Trans, Queer and Asexual students by diversifying their activities and events.
 8. The NUS LGBT Campaign will set up and lead a specific LGBT Zero Tolerance to LGBTphobia campaign to combat discrimination and prejudice against LGBT students within Colleges and Universities.
 9. The NUS LGBT Campaign will work with Students' Unions and sabbatical officers in order to implement this campaign effectively.
 10. To Lobby the government to change assessment criteria to one that is more flexible with a diverse range of assessment suiting multiple learning needs.
 11. To lobby the government to change the policy on A levels to ensure LGBT students can remain within Education
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Motion 105: Queering the Sciences


Conference believes

1. Science especially life sciences and psychology have often been used to dehumanise and pathologise LGBT peoples.
2. That LGBT people are underrepresented in sciences.

Conference further believes

1. More should be done in syllabuses to bring up LGBT issues.
2. We do not need to search for a Gay gene.
3. That Science is seen to be dominated by straight cis white men.
4. LGBT students due to oppression are more likely to enter academia through less conventional routes e.g. FE and internships.
5. LGBT students who are estranged from their parents are still assessed according to their parent's income.
6. That this issue does not affect just the LGBT community, and that an intersectional problem requires an intersectional solution.

Conference resolves

1. To lobby to direct research to improving the lives of LGBT people.
 2. To provide more information for LGBT students who wish to go into the Sciences.
 3. To campaign for free education and living stipends for all students.
 4. To reach out and try to involve the other NUS Liberation Campaigns in multilateral, intersectional campaigns aimed at making the sciences more equal and open to members of all marginalised groups.
 5. To create e-resources for prospective scientists at the FE level who are LGBT; and as part of the conversation in CR4 to advocate for similar resources for prospective scientists in FE who identify as Black, as Disabled, or as Women.
 6. To vocally encourage, where possible, such students as described in CR5 (particularly LGBT) who are willing to stand up as champions for their communities in pursuing a science education and career.
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Motion 106: Equality in Education

Conference Believes

1. There is no reserved LGBT place on FE or HE zone
2. Without the involvement of LGBT students education cannot be appropriately shaped and changed for the better of LGBT students
3. The LGBT campaign has conducted the largest piece of research into LGBT students experience in education

Conference Further Believes

1. Without the full involvement of liberation groups in the structuring and process of education throughout FE and HE it can never be fully representative and will not change
2. The process of policy, curriculum and module structure is not made explicitly accessible to students
3. LGBT students should be empowered to co-create and shape their curriculum to ensure the diversity reflects the diversity of the curriculum and make sure our shared histories are shared and taught
4. Staff should be better trained to accommodate for and teach on liberation-focussed issues; to ensure a more inclusive environment where lectures can challenge and question effectively
5. Education Officers have access to vital meetings where decisions are made, but are not informed on LGBT issues in education
6. Toolkits, briefings and campaigns should be provided to Education Officers advising how to better involve and work with LGBT students to ensure they are being represented throughout FE and HE
7. LGBT groups should be provided with the tools so they can deconstruct processes that otherwise isolate students from involvement in shaping education

Conference Resolves

1. The NUS LGBT campaign creates a toolkit for Education Officers regarding LGBT involvement in education and on how to get further involved in shaping education
 2. The NUS LGBT Campaign continues to focus work on and campaign on liberation in education
 3. The LGBT campaign should run sessions at all NUS education training events
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Strong and Active Unions

Motion 201: An Accessible Campaign

Conference Believes

1. As a campaign we should be maximising the amount of opportunities for students to get involved with the campaign
2. No student should be unable to participate because of finance
3. We cannot be an effective, inclusive campaign if we are not expanding where events are hosted
4. The campaign should be looking into hosting events such as training days in regional locations to ensure that every student who wants to get involved can
5. Where groups are being identified as regularly unable to attend NUS LGBT events, NUS LGBT should be looking to find alternatives to ensure that as a campaign they are not being neglected

Conference Resolves

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1. For NUS LGBT to start hosting regional training days
 2. For NUS LGBT to host local meet-ups for LGBT groups where possible
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Motion 202: Black LGBT sub-committee - creating safer autonomous space

Conference Believes:

1. There is already low engagement of LGBT students in the membership and LGBT conference.
2. The LGBT committee is an all white committee, except for reserved places for Black students.
3. There are currently only two reserved places on LGBT committee for Black LGBT students, who are expected to represent all Black LGBT students of colour.
4. Black LGBT students face an intersection of oppressions when having to face; homophobia, transphobia, and/or Islamophobia and/or sexism as well as racism.
5. Home UK issues of racism, and deportation of Black/BME LGBT people, are not priority campaigns at LGBT conference.

Conference further believes:


1. There is a wide range of varying issues faced by Black LGBT people from different backgrounds.
2. That self-autonomous safe space is needed to talk about self-organising and issues that affect Black LGBT students.
3. Many Black LGBT delegates are less likely to run to come to conference and feel excluded at university in their LGBT societies and/or unions.
4. Black LGBT students are less likely to run for places on committee that aren't the reserved places, than their white counterparts.
5. The LGBT movement has historically been very dominated by Eurocentric models of representation, and this needs to be recognised and changed.

Conference Resolves:

1. To create a Black LGBT sub-committee to be made up of 3 Black LGBT people.
 2. 1 place to be reserved for Black LGBT woman, and 1 open place, elected at LGBT conference and 1 open place to be elected at Black students conference.
 3. That this sub-committee would increase representation of Black LGBT people on the committee as a whole
 4. That the sub-committee would be a safe space for issues facing all Black LGBT people to be discussed on a regular basis ready for the Black Student reps to bring to LGBT committee
 5. The committee would meet in person twice a year and be granted the funding to do so, on other times would Skype.
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Motion 203: Be careful with each other, so we can dangerous together

Conference believes

1. That trans* people are oppressed in contemporary society through numerous mechanisms, including but not limited to; lack of healthcare, policing of gender, less options for employment or education, street harassment, and micro-aggressions
 2. That cisgender people correspondingly have access to certain privileges that trans* people do not have access to, which come at the expense of trans* people
 3. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should be a safe space for all LGBT students.
 4. That trans* people are often asked to educate cis people about gender and various trans* issues. Often this enacts a problematic dynamic, where the education of cis people occurs on
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cis people's terms, with a presumption that trans* people are somehow obligated to educate cis people on things that are easily found on google.

5. There have been numerous instances where trans* people have challenged such behaviour within the campaign and been met with anger or derision from cis people, or have been asked to change their tone by officers or committee members.

Conference Further Believes

1. It is essential for a safe space to recognise imbalances of power between cis and trans* students, and to allow for any problematic behaviour to be challenged swiftly.
2. That a safe space includes allowing students the right to not have to educate people in more powerful groups, especially when that information could be accessed by cis people through the many opportunities to learn about trans* issues provided through the NUS Campaign, other organisations, and the internet.
3. It is a completely reasonable for trans* people to be frustrated when cis people get things wrong or are behaving in a problematic manner.
4. That trans* liberation will not happen on cis people's terms. Often our liberation will not be palatable to cis people and cis people need to get over that.
5. That tone-policing of oppressed groups is an act of oppression.

Conference Resolves

1. To update the safer spaces policy to reflect the above.
2. To respect trans* students' right not to have to be educators all the time.
3. To recognise that trans* students best understand their own experiences.
4. To not engage in acts of oppression against those more vulnerable and less well represented in the campaign.
5. To listen to and work alongside trans* students, within the spirit of mutual aid and solidarity. To not shout down trans* people's concerns.
6. To not engage in tone policing or censor trans* people from speaking about their own experiences.


Motion 204: Access Goes Further Than Finance

Conference Believes:

1. Disabled LGBT students form an integral part of the student LGBT movement.
2. Disabled LGBT students face additional barriers to event attendance in comparison with their non-disabled counterparts. For example, factors including but not limited to:
 - a. physical accessibility of event venues;
 - b. unclear trigger/content warnings relating to speech content, or trigger/content warnings that do not allow event attendees sufficient time to leave an event;
 - c. frequency and duration of access breaks;
 - d. unexpected changes to event scheduling or location;
 - e. lack of provision of spaces free of alcohol;
 - f. can cause problems for some Disabled students.
3. When considering campaign accessibility, meeting the needs of Disabled LGBT students is vital.

Conference Resolves:

1. NUS LGBT to consult Disabled members of the LGBT campaign regarding their experiences as Disabled LGBT students, and in particular, how these have affected their participation in NUS LGBT events, campaigns and conferences and the wider LGBT student movement, both in their institutions and on a regional and national level.

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2. This consultation to consider other identities and experiences which affect a Disabled LGBT student's experience of being Disabled and LGBT, specifically addressing the needs of Black, Women, mature, part-time, further education, international and/or postgraduate Disabled LGBT students and Disabled LGBT students with dependents.
 3. Responsibility for implementing this consultation to lie with the NUS LGBT Disabled Students' Representative, with support from other NUS LGBT committee members, the NUS LGBT Full-Time Officers and NUS staff.
 4. Those implementing this consultation to offer to collaborate with NUS and other relevant liberation, section and zone campaigns on its implementation.
 5. The findings of this consultation to be made publicly available and used to inform planning of future NUS LGBT events, conferences and campaigns.

Society and Citizenship

Motion 310: Action for trans* health

Conference believes

1. That all trans* people have the right to access the healthcare they need.
2. That non-binary trans* people, trans* people with atypical gender presentation and/or non-heterosexual sexualities, intersex people, and disabled people are routinely denied both transition related healthcare and healthcare for unrelated issues.
3. That healthcare should be free and accessible to everyone.
4. The Action for Trans* Health network is an organisation established by Manchester Students in order to:
 - fundraise in order to provide small grants to trans* individuals so they can access healthcare;
 - educate health providers on trans* issues and how to better engage with trans* patients;
 - campaign for the expansion of services offered on the NHS;
 - engage with the trans* community on healthcare issues (i.e. organising sexual health workshops for trans* people).

Conference further believes


1. That the current state of healthcare for trans* people is unacceptable.
2. That refusing or providing inadequate healthcare to someone because of their gender identity is unacceptable.
3. That NUS LGBT should fight for access to fair and comprehensive medical treatment for trans* people.


Conference resolves

1. To affiliate to the Action for Trans* Health network and support their aims through provision of officer and staff time. There is no fee for the NUS LGBT Campaign to affiliate to Action for Trans* Health.
2. To help publicise Action for Trans* Health through the NUS LGBT campaign, and support constituent members in setting up Action for Trans* Health chapters.
3. To organise for a session on trans* health to be ran by Action for Trans* Health at regional activist training days.

Motion 301: No 'T' in "equal marriage"

Conference believes

1. The marriage 'Same sex-couples' act 2013 achieved Royal assent 17th of July 2013.
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2. In it, there was consideration for Cis spouses of trans people to annul the marriage in the case of a trans partner deciding to transition, a carry-over from the Matrimonial Causes Act (as amended by the GRA), which failed to be repealed by the marriage 'Same sex-couples' act.
 3. It also introduces a provision where the Cis spouse is able to veto their trans partner's application for a Gender recognition certificate.

Conference further believes


1. This is not 'equal marriage' for trans people.
2. As a result of this, it institutes a power dynamic where the cis spouse is put at a significant advantage over the trans partner.
3. This could lead to a situation where a trans person in a marriage will not be able to get their gender recognised by the government with a misunderstanding partner and potentially lead to long drawn out divorce proceedings.
4. Trans people who have GRCs going into the marriage can still have their marriage annulled at a later date.
5. Also leads to a situation where trans people who refuse to have GRCs have to marry under their assigned gender.


Conference resolves

1. To campaign for the removal of the spousal veto.
2. To continue to campaign around the issue of smashing the gender recognition act.
3. This Campaign will not refer to this act or its effects as 'Equal Marriage'.

Motion 302: LGBT Asylum in the UK

Conference believes

1. There are 83 countries in the world where it is illegal to participate in homosexual acts.
 2. Currently it is not illegal to LGBT in Russia. However, Russia has seen the introduction of a new nationwide law banning the distribution of "propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations" among minors.
 3. In 1988 the UK saw the introduction of a similar law now commonly known as section 28 which prohibited the local authorities from "promoting homosexuality". This law is now widely regarded to have contributed significantly to LGBT inequality and discrimination in the UK until it was repealed in 2003.
 4. People seeking asylum in the UK because they are at risk of persecution, imprisonment, or death in their home country because of their sexuality and/or gender identity are frequently required to "prove" this identity, and thus that the risk is genuine.
 5. The UK Border Agency's judges often assume that it is safe for LGBT asylum seekers to return home if they are "discreet" about their sexuality and/or gender identity.
 6. NUS LGBT has a responsibility to intersections within our community.
 7. All people deserve the opportunity to live authentically in their LGBT identity without fear of adverse consequences.
 8. NUS LGBT works to reverse and reduce these adverse consequences in the UK.
 9. The situation in many other countries is even worse than it is here in the UK: Notable examples include Uganda (recently passed legislation that will enable life-long prison sentences for LGBT people, which will only serve to exacerbate the culture of systematic lynching of people 'outed' by newspapers), Russia (prohibits any expression of pro-LGBT sentiment), Greece (Rounding up sex-workers and trans people and imprisoning them, and giving them non-consensual HIV testing). These are only the few most well known examples.
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10. Whilst the Supreme Court ruling of July 2010 asserts the right of LGB people be granted leave to remain if they may be required to conceal their orientation in order to survive, many obstacles are used by the UKBA to prevent individuals from accessing this right, and the ruling does not include trans or intersex people.
 11. Avery Edison upon entering Canada on the 7th of February was detained by border police and was routinely mis-gendered by staff despite her passport carrying an F marker and was held in a male prison.
 12. Prossie N 20 attempted to escape persecution in her home country of Uganda by coming to the UK was deported on the 13th of December 2013.
 13. LGBT asylum seekers are routinely asked to prove that they are LGBT by border staff and often disbelieved even if they are telling the truth.
 14. Detention centres routinely violate the human rights of detainees.
 15. The UK government FCO condemned Uganda's anti-gay law on the 20th of December.

Conference further believes

1. It is unfair and infeasible to expect LGBT asylum seekers to prove sexuality and/or gender identity.
2. Furthermore, it is a travesty that LGBT people who fail to prove their sexuality and/or gender identity are forced to return to their countries of origin where they may face persecution, violence, torture and/or death.
3. Although the Winter Olympics have passed and the media spotlight upon Russia is fading we must not forget the persecution of LGBT people in this country and others.
4. It is often unsafe for LGBT and most often trans people to travel to other countries due to LGBTphobic border staff.
5. Deporting of LGBT people when they are attempting to escape laws in their own countries is deplorable.
6. Border controls are a form of violence against LGBT people and are often complicit with racism and sexism.
7. The British government continues to deport LGBT asylum seekers to Uganda despite condemning their Anti-gay law.

Conference Resolves

1. NUS LGBT will campaign and lobby the UK Border Agency and the Home Office for a more humane and accessible asylum process especially with regards to LGBT asylum seekers.
2. NUS LGBT will continue and expand the Love Without Borders Campaign to raise awareness of countries where it is still illegal to be LGBT and offer support and solidarity to LGBT activists in these countries.
3. NUS LGBT will lend support to organisations that exist to assist asylum seekers in the UK.
4. To mandate NUS LGBT Committee to work to bring to public awareness the many places where LGBT people face even greater oppression than that here in the UK.
5. To mandate NUS LGBT Committee to campaign for an end to unjustified obstacles being generated by the UKBA.
6. To mandate NUS LGBT Committee to campaign for the rights of LGB asylum seekers in the UK to be extended to include trans and intersex people seeking asylum in the UK.
7. To support the work of UK-based organisations which oppose LGBT-phobia in the rest of the world, for example the African-Led 'Out and Proud Diamond Group' which is based in London and campaigns against homophobia in Africa.
8. To condemn the violence against LGBT people carried out by border staff.
9. To condemn asylum procedures that require LGBT asylum seekers to prove their gender and/or sexuality, and to campaign for the end of such procedures.
10. To campaign for the removal of all border controls.

Motion 303: Cops off campus, cops off pride





Conference Believes

1. The history of LGBT liberation is a history of repression, antagonism and conflict with the police.
2. The police - particularly the Metropolitan police and those in Birmingham - have, supported by university management, engaged in both overtly illegal and legally questionable repression of student protest over the last year.
3. NUS NEC passed policy wrongly suggesting that students from liberation groups "particularly" feel safer with a police presence on campus.
4. Pride is a protest and should be an environment that is accessible and must remain political to protect our autonomy

Conference Further Believes

1. That students might feel safer with a uniformed presence speaks more to the privilege which allows them to trust that they will be believed and protected by the police than to the oppression for which they face a very real danger.
2. To say that liberation students "particularly" (rather than merely incidentally) feel safer with a police presence erases the experiences of LGBT students which have been shared with this conference in previous years.
3. Establishing hate crime reporting centres in Campus Security and Welfare Services plays a useful role in reducing the perceived necessity of inviting police onto our campuses.
4. Inviting uniformed blocks to exhibit and march at celebrations of LGBT history and culture is deeply ahistorical and serves to paper over important questions about state repression of LGBT people.

Conference Resolves


1. To support the call for "Cops Off Campus"
 2. To reject, and demand an apology for, the erasure of liberation students' experiences of police brutality by NUS NEC.
 3. To produce and distribute a briefing on the dangers LGBT (particularly trans) students face from both police and organised fascists while exercising their right to protest.
 4. Prides should remain free across the UK, NUS LGBT should create tool kits and packs to help students on campus win battles with pride organizers to stop the commercialization of pride
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Motion 304: No Transphobes in NUS LGBT

Conference Believes:

1. That the NUS LGBT campaign has a duty to protect and promote the rights of all its members
2. That some cisgendered LGBT people act in ways which are actively transphobic and hurt the wellbeing of trans people
3. These actions are damaging regardless of whether they are said by LGBT or not
4. Providing or sharing a platform with transphobic people hurts trans students
5. The NUS Women's Campaign has passed policy in the past to no platform transphobic feminists
6. This has been shown to make both the NUS Women's Campaign and events the campaign has been involved in safer for trans students

Conference Resolves:

1. For NUS LGBT to refuse to give or share a platform with transphobic speakers, even if these speakers are LGBT
 2. To condemn transphobia even when coming from LGBT people
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3. To create a resource pack to inform campaign members about the activities of transphobic people
 4. To work with other NUS liberation campaigns to combat transphobia in the student movement
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Motion 305: The General Election


Conference Believes

1. There will be a general election in May 2015
2. Less than half of 18 – 24 year olds voted in the 2010 general election
3. Currently there are 13 Open LGB MP's, of those 12 are gay men 0 of those are black. And there are 0 MP's that are openly Trans*
4. In spite of our shared position, many students will nonetheless vote for racist border controls, welfare reforms which demonise disabled people, bureaucratic control over the bodies of women and trans people, and subordination of LGBT liberation to conservative "values".

Conference Further Believes

1. With the advent of fixed term parliaments, almost half of all students will never see a General Election while in Higher Education, with the overwhelming majority never seeing one while in Further Education.
2. While our position as students unites us superficially, our experiences of education are heavily influenced by our position at the intersection of multiple other experiences, identities and oppressions.
3. LGBT rights have advanced over the last twenty years significantly, but we have much further to go before we achieve a liberated society.
4. Traditionally political parties do not speak about 'minority' issues in general election manifesto or campaigns.
5. Political parties have a limited understanding of how sexuality and gender identity intersect with other identities such as race and class to shut many LGBT people out of mainstream politics.
6. This government has enacted policies which harm LGBT people, such as changes to benefits, privatisation of the NHS and education reform.
7. Any future government must act in the interests of LGBT people across all aspects of their life.
8. In spite of unanimous opposition from autonomous party LGBT groups, the Marriage (Same-Sex Couples) Act contained several clauses which actively set back legal equality for trans people in the UK.
9. We struggle to win campus elections for marginalised students, much less local and national ones.
10. Campaigns which focus on national elections necessarily build up and burn out, only building capacity for electoral organisations, not the communities they claim to serve.
11. It is almost impossible in any meaningful sense to "Win the General Election for Students".

Conference Resolves

1. To produce a manifesto for LGBT people in conjunction with other LGBT organisations.
 2. To help LGBT societies lobby their parliamentary candidates using the LGBT manifesto.
 3. To support students in building sustainable projects and networks around LGBTQ liberation on their campuses and in their local communities long before, and long after, there are any electoral gains to be made.
 4. To engage with NUS' "Winning the General Election for Students" platform on the understanding that the campaign and our elected officers will push for the adoption of
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radical, left-wing policy, not dissimilar to policies seen throughout the NUS liberation campaigns.

Motion 306: Supporting LGBT students in the North of Ireland

Conference Notes

1. The NUS-USI LGBT Campaign is the Northern Irish equivalent of the NUS LGBT, NUS Scotland LGBT, and NUS Wales LGBT Campaigns. Students in NUS-USI are part of NUS UK and the Union of Students in Ireland, due to the constitutional situation in the north of Ireland. Whilst the campaign is still in its infancy, 2013 and 2014 saw successful NUS-USI LGBT Conferences, where LGBT students across Northern Ireland came together to share ideas, campaigning strategies, and be part of a self-defining LGBT space.
2. Many students who work with NUS UK rarely know that NUS-USI exists, let alone that NUS-USI liberation campaigns exist. NUS-USI liberation officers are all part-time voluntary positions with little to no budget for their liberation campaigns.
3. The largest party in the Northern Irish Assembly, the Democratic Unionist Party, who launched a campaign to 'Save Ulster From Sodomy' in the 1980s, regularly talk about how "unnatural" LGBT people are², have twice blocked equal marriage in the Northern Irish Assembly³, have said that being gay is worse than child abuse⁴, and have supported the DUP Health Minister in spending (at least) £17k on challenging a High Court decision ruling that the ban on people in a civil partnership adopting children was illegal.

Conference Believes

1. A number of factors (segregated schooling, sectarianism, institutionalised homophobia, the legacy of the Troubles, to name a few) mean that in comparison with the rest of the UK, LGBT students living in the north of Ireland have a unique struggle on their hands.
2. Any furtherance of LGBT rights in Northern Ireland has come from a Labour Party Secretary of State or a court battle, not from Stormont. Therefore, the support and work of LGBT people and allies in the UK is crucial for LGBT people in Northern Ireland.
3. The NUS LGBT Campaign has a duty to support and work with the NUS-USI LGBT Campaign and officer. An extremely important aspect of this work is ensuring students in the UK are aware of the situation in Northern Ireland, particularly in regards to the different laws governing the jurisdiction and what effect this has on students.

Conference Resolves

1. To support and work with the NUS-USI LGBT Officer and LGBT Campaign in Northern Ireland, particularly whenever the LGBT Officer position is vacant.
2. To include information on the relevant situation or law in Northern Ireland and a point of contact for the NUS-USI LGBT Campaign when providing educational tools and educational information for students' unions and student activists.

Motion 307: End The Cis washing of the Stonewall Riots!

Conference Believes

² <http://www.theguardian.com/politics/blog/2012/jun/13/unionist-gay-row>

³ <http://www.redpepper.org.uk/equal-marriage-dup-homophobia-shames-northern-ireland/>

⁴ <http://www.redpepper.org.uk/equal-marriage-dup-homophobia-shames-northern-ireland/>

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1. The Stonewall Riots were a watershed movement in LGBT history, effectively starting the early Gay Liberation movement[1].
 2. The Stonewall Riots had a significant trans presence. Notably, trans activist Sylvia Rivera has been said to have "thrown the second brick".
 3. A Stonewall Riot veteran has been quoted as saying "Everything had its birth with transgenders and transsexuals finally standing up!"[2]
 4. Other early actions such as the Compton's Cafeteria Riot also had a strong trans presence.
 5. Despite her contribution to Gay Liberation, Sylvia Rivera and other trans activists were treated incredibly poorly by the wider movement. In one notable case, Rivera was permanently barred from the Manhattan LGBT Center for suggesting that they allow homeless queer and trans people of colour to sleep there during the sub-zero weather. This center now has a room dedicated to her memory.
 6. While Rivera died in 2002, many of those in the movement who perpetrated violence against her and other trans people are still alive and active.
 7. The existing evidence is sufficient to consider all of this to be historical fact.

Conference Further Believes

1. Historical negationism is the particular form of historical revisionism that advances a certain viewpoint regardless of its accuracy or plausibility. A widely-known example of negationism is Holocaust Denial.
2. Negationists make their points by discrediting existing historical sources, faking new sources and misusing statistics.
3. Negationism almost always has a political motivation behind it.
4. Negationism of trans involvement in the early Gay Liberation movement serves to delegitimise trans involvement in the modern LGBT Liberation movement.

Conference Resolves

1. To condemn the promotion of historical narratives that minimise or erase the involvement of trans people in the Stonewall Riots and the wider early Gay Liberation movement as transphobic hate speech.

[1]: Gay Liberation specifically refers to the period of the movement in the 60s and 70s, during which "gay" was commonly used to refer to all LGBT people rather than having the more specific meaning it has today.


[2]: <http://www.transadvocate.com/interview-with-an-actual-stonewall-riot-veteran-the-ciswashing-of-stonewall-must-end.htm>

Motion 308: Celebrating fluidity and recognizing diversity

Conference believes

1. Romantic and sexual attraction can exist as two separate and fluid entities.
2. An individual may experience romantic and/or sexual attraction towards a variety of gender identities.
3. Some individuals may experience romantic attraction towards a different range of gender identities than the range of gender identities to which they experience sexual attraction.
4. Romantic and Sexual attraction are not mutually exclusive, and an individual may, or may not, experience one or either form of attraction.

Conference further believes

1. Language use should seek to further encompass the complexities of an individual's experience with attraction.
 2. Limitation and prescription of the LGBT community's language can only limit the expression of the full spectrum of sexualities and gender identities.
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Conference Resolves

1. To celebrate the diversity and fluidity of sexual/romantic orientation and gender identities experienced by the LGBT community.
 2. To adopt language that is inclusive to those that experience romantic attraction differently to sexual attraction. (Bi-romantic, Homo-romantic, Les-romantic, Aromantic, Grey-romantic, Demi-romantic).
 3. To make LGBT student activism an inclusive place for those that experience fluid attraction and/or gender identities.
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Motion 311: Democratising Trans Healthcare

Conference Believes

1. The NHS England Interim Gender Protocol and the Royal College of Psychiatry (RCPsych) guidelines for the treatment of gender dysphoria were published in 2013.
2. The NHS England protocol and RCPsych guidelines were both produced after consultation with trans people and organisations.
3. Despite this consultation, the RCPsych guidelines recommended GPs give patients seeking gender transition a full physical examination, including genital examination. Trans patients will be intensely uncomfortable with this.
4. The guidelines also recommend doctors question patients on their sexual history. This is bizarre, as sexuality and gender identity are fundamentally different things.
5. Press For Change (PfC), GIREs and Gender Trust all endorsed the RCPsych guidelines.
6. There is widespread ignorance among cis doctors of the effects of transition treatments, and very little research into this area.
7. This ignorance extends even to doctors involved in treatment decisions. For example, trans women are frequently informed that taking oestrogens will lead to "sexual dysfunction", when in fact the reality is more complex.

Conference Further Believes:

1. While the new protocols and guidelines are comparatively progressive, in many ways they do not go far enough.
2. Ultimately, trans people are the ones with the experience and knowledge to make decisions regarding transition-related care.
3. Merely consulting trans charities is not enough to utilise this experience, as involvement in charity work requires significant social privilege.


Conference Resolves:

1. To demand all decisions regarding transition-related healthcare be handed over to democratic control by trans people.
 2. To demand needs-based funding for gender services, on the basis that current service usage underestimates demand.
 3. To stage peaceful protests at the offices of NHS executive bodies calling for these demands to be met.
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Motion 312: Equal employee family leave and pay (gender and sexual orientation)

Conference Believes:



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1. That maternity leave is only applicable to birth mothers, being 52 weeks leave for all employees. Most will qualify for statutory maternity pay of 90% of full pay for 6 weeks and then a flat rate (which increases every year) for 33 weeks.
 2. That surrogate male parents may only be entitled to paternity leave, consisting of two weeks leave at a flat rate of pay for partners who have been employed for 26 weeks at the qualification date.
 3. That laws relating to employee family leave and pay directly discriminate on the grounds of gender and indirectly discriminate on the grounds of sexual orientation upon becoming a parent.
 4. That these laws will affect working LGBT+ students who are thinking of starting their own families.
 5. That the law is unclear on what form of parental leave trans people are entitled to depending on their circumstances.
 6. That the current assumption that mothers should be the primary caregivers is irredeemingly sexist as it assumes that women's careers are less important than men's and that women or always the preferred caregivers for their children.

Conference Further Believes:


1. That current legislation allows some Maternity leave to be traded for Paternity leave, however this does not go far enough and still ignores non-heteronormative families.
2. That employee family leave and pay should be equal for all families, regardless of biological, adoptive or surrogacy methods of conception.
3. That if there is one parent only, then that parent is entitled to the equivalent of the current maternity pay rights, regardless of the gender of that person.
4. That enabling men in heterosexual couples to have the opportunity to take on the paid primary carer role could help break down the "feminisation of responsibility" for children put upon women, providing more equal gender relations and opportunity, and enabling women to become more autonomous.
5. That all parents, irrespective of gender, should have absolute discretion how and when to use their parental leave. This would allow for pregnant trans men to use additional leave before they give birth to protect the safety and privacy for example.
6. That the introduction of the Elterngeld system in Germany, which allows parents more choice in how they use leave, has seen an increase in men taking significant levels of parental leave from 3.5% to over 18% since 2007.

Conference Resolves:

1. For NUS LGBT to empower and encourage LGBT students/societies to challenge this policy in their local businesses.
 2. NUS LGBT to advocate for equal family leave and pay for all biological, adoptive and surrogate parents, and for parents to have sole discretion in how they choose to divide this time and when they choose to use it and to lobby the government for changes to that effect.
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Motion 313: LGBT Students and Unemployment

Conference Believes

1. That the unemployment rate is around 7.1%, which is seen to be a drop in the rate
 2. However casual, part time and insecure employment is on the rise, as well as underemployment, where people are applying for and getting jobs that are under their skillset.
 3. Recently the Office of National Statistics (2012) stated that the unemployment rate for young black men was around 55.9% are unemployed and according to recent statistics around 1.12
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million women are unemployed, but of those employed many are struggling to fit childcare or caring responsibilities around full-time work.

4. That most HE and FE institutions do not collect data on sexual orientation or gender identity so cannot ascertain the experiences and/or routes of LGBT students.

Conference Further Believes

1. In times of economic recession it is often the most vulnerable in society who bear the brunt of job losses and job insecurity
2. Currently most LGBT organisations focus is on discrimination in the workplace and overlooks the discrimination faced by LGBT people as they try to enter work.
3. The Higher Education Academic Record is an extra-curricular achievement record which is seen go alongside degree classification, it states clubs, and society involvement as well as any positions held within the union.
4. LGBT students face being 'outed' on their CV or HEAR record due to involvement in their LGBT society
5. Trans people are at risk of discrimination at multiple levels in the employment market, from name discrepancies in application forms to being mis-gendered or discriminated against at interview.
6. A watering down of employment rights, from tribunals to proposed changes in the right to strike, means that LGBT people in work are more vulnerable
7. Changes to job seekers allowance means that LGBT people are being forced to apply for jobs they may not feel comfortable in, or face losing their benefits

Conference Resolves

1. To work with the Trades Union Congress to develop stronger links with trade unions, and develop research into LGBT people's experience of the employment market
 2. To lobby for an 'opt in' HEAR option for those who don't wish their LGBT society to appear
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Motion 314: Church of England

Conference believes

1. People should be free to take part in religion, and express their beliefs, regardless of their sexuality
2. The Church of England recently rejected the idea of offering blessings to same-sex couples.
3. 44% of church going and non-church going Anglicans are pro same-sex marriage (compared with 43% against it).
4. This current stance makes LGBT Christians feel unwelcome within the church.
5. Most universities and some colleges have a LGBT society of some form or another.
6. There are approximately 202 Christians Unions in existence in the United Kingdom, the majority of which are affiliated with UCCF. Many of these Christian Unions are on campuses that also have LGBT societies.
7. These Christian Unions often play a large role in the life of the University campus. In The University of Winchester for example, its Christian Union is the second largest society; every Christian Union is a visible part of university life

Conference further believes

1. That the LGBT community, regardless of personal beliefs, stands with members of the Church of England who are fighting against exclusion from their church.
2. A church which claims to be in favour of love and a positive force within society should not exclude people because of who they love.

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3. LGBT members of the Church of England should be able to have their marriages and relationships blessed by the church.
 4. These events can create a negative student experience for all involved and these situations shouldn't be unavoidable.

Conference resolves

1. To mandate officers to work with LGBT Christian groups in lobbying the Church of England to rethink their discriminatory and upsetting decision to ban people in same-sex marriages from having their relationships recognised by the church.
 2. Equally, to contact the UCCF and to request they message their affiliated Christian Unions to also engage with LGBT societies in a positive, welcoming way, which is easily justified according to Christian doctrine.
 3. Christian and LGBT students alike should be informed about good LGBT and Christian relations, and educated regarding stereotypes and myths.
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Motion 315: Its not all fun and games after the Olympics have ended – There's more to International LGBT right than Sochi

Conference Believes


1. LGBT rights across the global differ drastically between countries; from many legal rights to the death penalty.
2. The international community focused upon Russia during the Sochi Winter Olympic games. Much media attention and pressure was directed at the Russian government for its implementation of anti-Gay propaganda legislation.
3. Other countries such as Uganda and Nigeria have recently been legislating against LGBT people.
4. The FIFA World Cup will be hosted in Russia (2018) and Qatar (2022).
5. Homosexuality is illegal in Qatar.
6. Closer to home many European countries have legislated against same-sex marriage and LGBT rights. Same sex Marriage is constitutionally banned in (for example); Belarus (1994), Latvia (2006) and Hungary (2012), while Slovakia is currently discussing banning it (2014).
7. In November 2013 the Lithuanian parliament voted to continue the discussion on anti-LGBT legislation, which includes banning Gender reassignment, and amending their Criminal Code to ensure that "criticism of homosexuality does not constitute hate speech".

Conference Further Believes

1. Many communities around the world promote 'mob justice'. LGBT people are beaten, abused and killed while local police and officials ignore their plight.
2. That Russia is not a safe place for LGBT people. Russia should not be given the glory of hosting another major sporting event while they treat their LGBT citizens in this way.
3. Holding the FIFA World Cup in a country which bans homosexuality is a huge injustice and a potentially dangerous situation for LGBT players and supporters.
4. In 2013 the Gulf Cooperation Council (of which Qatar is a member) began discussions to establish some form of Gay test, which would enable them to ban Gay people from entering their countries.
5. The Health Ministry in Kuwait (another GCC member) proposed genetic tests for immigrant workers, to prevent Trans migrants from entering and working within the GCC. This is in direct violation of FIFA's commitment to equality for all.

Conference Resolves



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1. To not forget the LGBT community in Russia now that the Winter Olympics have finished.
 2. To campaign against decisions made by sports governing bodies (including the IOC and FIFA) which disregard the discrimination and violence faced by the LGBT communities in countries which get to host major sporting events.
 3. To open up communication channels with FIFA to discuss the safety and inclusivity of LGBT players and supporters at their events, specifically in the lead up to the 2018 and 2022 World Cups.
 4. To continue to lobby the Home Office/Immigration to ensure that LGBT people escaping persecution in their home land are able to find asylum in the UK without undignified interviews and having to 'prove' their Sexual/Gender identity.
 5. To work with ILGA, MEPs and others to address the reversal of equal rights currently sweeping across Europe and within EU member states.
 6. To ensure that Love Without Borders is a prominent campaign within NUS LGBT.
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Welfare

Motion 401: Mental Health

Conference notes

1. We have seen an increase in public discourse of mental health and a shift towards mental health sharing parity with physical health.
2. The Time to talk pledge has started the ball rolling with fighting mental health stigma.
3. Youth chances survey found that LGBT young people report significantly higher levels of mental health issues, such as self-harm, anxiety and depression. And that Trans* young people face the greatest level of discrimination and disadvantage.
4. Mental health services in the UK are chronically underfunded, accounting for 28% of NHS demand and receiving 13% of the NHS budget⁵.
5. Funding for mental health services was further cut by NHS England from April 2014⁶.

Conference Believes

1. There is a mental health crisis in the LGBT community.
2. LGBT people suffer mental health difficulties as a result of being oppressed in a heterocentric and ciscentric society.
3. LGBT people require specialist community based treatment as a result of that oppression.
4. LGBT students are at a higher risk of interrupting their studies, dropping out, self-harm and suicide.
5. LGBT students may have mental health care needs that straight, cis students do not. For example, LGB students may require consideration of how societal homophobia affects their mental health, and trans students may require consideration of how dysphoria affects their relationship with their body.
6. Trans students may find it difficult to access NHS mental health care at the same time as pursuing NHS medical transition without compromising one or both treatment paths.
7. Full student access to services that can meet these needs is conditional on these services existing and receiving adequate funding.
8. In order to improve access to appropriate mental health care for LGBT students, it is necessary to fight for increased mental health service funding and to oppose cuts to mental health services.

⁵ <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/mar/12/risks-deep-cuts-mental-health>

⁶ <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/mar/12/mental-health-funding-changes-lives-risk>





Conference Resolves

1. To campaign for institutions to have a targeted mental health care for LGBT students.
 2. To produce resources about LGBT mental health.
 3. To work with the disabled student's campaign to end the stigma around mental health.
 4. To oppose cuts to mental health services and to oppose cuts to NHS services as a whole.
 5. To fight for increased funding for mental health services, both within our institutions and in the wider community.
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Motion 402: Smashing the Sex-by-Deception Myth

Conference Believes

1. That current CPS guidance (that prosecutors use when determining whether to pursue a case) states that consent can be undermined if an individual has failed to disclose that their assigned gender at birth differs from their current gender presentation. [1]
2. This contradicts the Gender Recognition Act (2004), which holds that if a person has a Gender Recognition Certificate, that prosecutors and police must treat that person as the gender given on the certificate in all ways. In this case, no prosecution would be possible.
3. Furthermore, trans* people are often reluctant to disclose that their gender assigned at birth may differ from their current gender presentation, especially as doing so can put them at risk of hate crime.


Conference Further Believes

1. The Gender Recognition Act embodies in law the principle that trans* people who have transitioned should be recognised as their true gender in all situations.
2. The CPS guidelines are not only in conflict with this principle, they are also transphobic in their own right.
3. The sex-by-deception myth that these guidelines propagate is untrue and harmful to trans* people.
4. Students frequently take university as an opportunity to "find themselves", and this process may include sexual experimentation.
5. Trans* students should not feel pressured to disclose their gender assigned at birth before having consensual sex.
6. A risk of prosecution would substantially pressure trans* students to make such disclosures, and is likely to be detrimental to their mental health.
7. Trans* students seeking sexual encounters are not out to deceive anybody, just to have a good time like any other student.

Conference Resolves

1. To lobby the CPS to revise their guidelines to reflect the principle that people who have transitioned should be recognised as their true gender in all situations.
2. To push for SUs and LGBT societies to provide support to trans* students navigating the sexual and romantic minefields of university life.
3. To run a campaign increasing student awareness of trans* issues, with a particular focus on smashing the "sex-by-deception" myth.

[1] "Thus while, in a physical sense, the acts of assault by penetration of the vagina are the same whether perpetrated by a male or a female, the sexual nature of the acts is, on any common sense view, different where the complainant is deliberately deceived by a defendant into believing the latter is a male." [http://www.cps.gov.uk/leigal/p to r/rape and sexual offences/consent/#a07o](http://www.cps.gov.uk/leigal/p%20to%20r/rape%20and%20sexual%20offences/consent/#a07o)



Motion 404: Reproductive justice for students in the north of Ireland

Conference believes

1. When the 1967 Abortion Act was brought into the UK, it didn't apply to Northern Ireland. The Northern Irish Parliament existed at the time, and chose not to bring the law into Northern Ireland. This means that the law governing access to reproductive health services in Northern Ireland is the 1861 Offences Against the Person Act. The law criminalises any person who has an abortion, or anyone who assists someone in having an abortion, with the sentence being "penal servitude for life".
2. This means that LBT women, trans men, and non-binary individuals living in Northern Ireland cannot access an abortion unless their life is deemed to be at risk. On average, 45 abortions are carried out under this law each year in Northern Ireland, with approximately 1000 people travelling to the UK to access an abortion in a private healthcare facility. These are conservative statistics, with many people buying the abortion pill online or giving fake names and addresses at clinics in the UK.
3. Accessing an abortion in the UK can and does cost up to £2000. This creates an extra financial barrier for those who cannot get together a large amount of money in a relatively short space of time.

Conference Believes

1. The right to bodily autonomy and reproductive justice are non-negotiable.
2. The situation regarding access to abortion services is not widely known in the UK. It is crucial that the NUS LGBT Campaign commits to educating students and activists across the UK about the limitations for LBT women, trans men and non-binary individuals when it comes to their reproductive health.

Conference Resolves

1. To work with the other NUS liberation campaigns in fighting for reproductive justice for individuals across the UK.
 2. To ensure that information on the laws governing LBT women, trans men and non-binary individuals' access to reproductive justice in Northern Ireland is included in any information produced by the NUS LGBT Campaign on healthcare provisions for LGBT students.
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Motion 405: Self-Care is Vital

Conference believes:

1. Audre Lorde was quoted as saying 'Caring for myself is not self-indulgence, it is self-preservation and that is an act of political warfare.'
2. Trade Unions fought for the right to have an 8-hour work day.
3. Being healthy makes you happier and more productive.

Conference further believes:

1. Self-care is a political act.
 2. Self-care is about trying to be more self-aware. Noticing when you are over-whelmed, ill, stressed or exhausted and making changes to your routine and lifestyle that will help to improve your wellbeing.
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3. Liberation campaigners can often be and feel attacked for their views. These attacks can be through facebook, twitter, hate campaigns, emails, and phone calls. Some of these attacks are harassment and/or stalking.
 4. Being a liberation campaigner can sometimes be an isolating role.
 5. Continuously campaigning for LGBT rights can sometimes be upsetting, mentally and physically draining and have implications on people health.
 6. Activism is often based in a very macho culture.
 7. Liberation campaigning is about community and collectivism, as a group we can achieve much more than as an individual.
 8. Within the student movement this year we have seen people attacked by other based on incomplete stories and understanding of the issues, heresy and rumours.
 9. Campaigners are more effective when they feel supported and not attacked by the rest of the women's movement.
 10. As a campaign we need to be better at articulating the difference between accountability and bullying, publishing the appropriate channels for accountability whilst at the same time empowering officers to tackle bullying and harassment.

Conference resolves:


1. NUS LGBT Campaign will develop both informal and formal support networks for LGBT officers across the country.
 2. Steps will be taken to ensure self-care is embedded in the work and culture of the campaign.
 3. NUS will provide information and advice around best practice for policies and procedures that improve the support that is available to staff and volunteers e.g. access to support services, TOIL, mental health policies, sick leave/pay, management mental health training and bullying policies
 4. The LGBT Campaign will promote the NUS activist mental health guides to the membership.
 5. NUS will provide information and advice about bullying and harassment within the role.
 6. NUS will provide information and advice about bullying and harassment within the role.
 7. NUS will promote the advantages of joining a union to students
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Motion 406: Body Positivity

Conference Believes

1. Body image problems affect a wide variety of people, but gay, bi, and/or trans men are affected disproportionately highly, in comparison to their heterosexual counterparts.
2. Reasons why gay, bi, and/or trans men are disproportionately affected include homophobia, misogyny, isolation, and stereotyping of the gay, bi, and/or trans community.
3. Whilst acknowledging that generally women are faced with a far greater content of media instructing them to change their bodies, gay, bisexual and trans men nonetheless are faced with a wide variety of types of media instructing them to alter their bodies in some way, and implying that their current bodies aren't good enough.
4. The gay male media promotes specific body types, damaging to men who do not fit those stereotypes.

Conference Further Believes

5. Discussion about body image problems for gay, bi, and/or trans men is very poor.
 6. Body image problems are very poorly understood, especially regarding the gay and bi community.
 7. Access to resources on body image problems for gay, bi, and/or trans men is extremely difficult, if not impossible.
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8. Many people are reluctant to search for help on body image problems, possibly out of embarrassment or not wanting to appear weak.
 9. Body image problems are often intimately linked to a person's sexuality, making it increasingly difficult to talk about body image problems if gay, bi, and/or trans men are not out.
 10. Online resources are an effective way to reach a large number of people.

Conference Resolves

1. To raise awareness of body image problems in the gay, bi, and/or trans community.
 2. To create a series of online videos and information packs relating to body image problems.
 3. To work with organisations who specialise in body image problems.
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Motion 407: Support and Visibility for LGBT Polyamorous Students

Conference Believes


1. Polyamory can be defined as "the practice, desire, or acceptance of having more than one intimate relationship at a time with the knowledge and consent of everyone involved."
2. Polyamory is unfortunately, for often negative reasons, frequently confused with cheating within relationships, promiscuity, immorality, a lack of emotional connection or the mainly religious act of men marrying more than one woman known as polygamy.
3. Polyamory is an umbrella term to cover many forms of non monogamous relationships.
4. LGBT polyamorous people are usually in the situation where they have to come out twice, once as LGBT and once as polyamorous. It is a difficult and rarely talked about situation which needs support along with other polyamorous specific positions.
5. The particular negative stigma attached to polyamorous people and relationships can make life especially difficult for LGBT people who may already be facing discrimination because of their sexual or romantic orientation or gender.

Conference further believes

1. LGBT representation in the media is already problematic as it usually focuses on homosexual, white, cisgendered males and sometimes females. However even when the representation is a little more balanced it is almost universally monogamous and so erasing the experiences LGBT polyamorous people.
2. Polyamory as a concept is often used against same sex marriage in debates saying it is "only a matter of time until three people can marry" as if it is a ridiculous and terrible notion. Also in these instances supporters of same sex marriage often then denounce polyamory to strengthen their argument.
3. Poly caucus is a growing and important part of conference and shows that there are very distinctive problems that polyamorous people, and polyamorous LGBT students in particular, face
4. With this in mind it is logical to classify polyamorous people within a wider circle of sexual minorities.
5. And so because of these reasons along with the general lack of understanding, visibility and support for polyamorous people when coming out and in everyday life polyamorous people experience very real discrimination on the basis of their sexual identity.

Conference Resolves



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1. To work towards making the LGBT student movement a more welcoming and understanding environment for all by promoting and defending honest, consensual and safe relationships regardless of the forms they take.
 2. To actively fight against the discrimination LGBT polyamorous students face on the basis of their sexual identity.
 3. To use polyamorous inclusive language in literature and legislation when referring to the forms relationships can and do take.
 4. To positively and inclusively welcome LGBT polyamorous activism alongside other LGBT student activism.
 5. To work with the other liberation committees, women's, black and disabled, to produce a statement in support of all forms of relationship to promote inclusively across the board.
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