Black Students Campaign Policy 2014-17



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Purpose of This Document

This document contains all the policy currently in effect for the Black Students Campaign. This is the policy that the Black Students Officer and the Black Students 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 Black Students Conference votes to renew it

Policy passed at Black Students Conference 2014 will lapse at the end of Black Students Conference 2017.

What You Need To Do

If you are considering submitting policy to Black Students 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

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Policy Passed At Black Students Conference 2014

BSC_BR_14101: Defending and Strengthening Black Representation

Conference Believes:

- 1. Black people are under-represented in key positions of power, from politics, the media, business and judiciary.
- 2. The New Statesman's 'Race and The Media' revealed Black people are grossly underrepresented in British media; only 5 of the Guardian's 2013 guide to the 100 most important people in the media were Black; and only 1 national newspaper/political editor is Black.
- 3. At the 2010 General Election, Black MPs doubled from 14 to 27. Whilst this was a step forward, Black MPs still are only 4.2 per cent of Parliament around a third of the 13 per cent of MPs needed to reflect our presence in Britain based on the 2011 Census.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Increasing the number of elected Black student representatives will tackle racism and ensure our concerns are addressed.
- 2. Around 18.4% of students are Black yet historically we are under-represented in Students' Union decision-making bodies. NUS research for 2012-13 shows 16.2% of officers are now Black; proving that a decade of Black self-organisation and the prioritising of Black representation has moved us massively forwards towards equality.
- 3. Our Campaign's priority of increasing representation led to the: a. Increased election of Black student sabbatical officers; b. A successful, inspiring NUS Black Students' Winter Conference, training up the next generation of Black student activists; c. Our increased involvement in other liberation campaigns; d. On-going support from Black community organisations and trade unions.
- 4. 'Black Students' Officer in Every Union' is a priority we need guaranteed representation at all levels.
- 5. We are correct to assert the principle of Black students electing our own representatives throughout the student movement. This must be respected across NUS.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Continue increasing the number of Black representatives in Students' Unions, providing training and support for standing in elections.
- 2. Make campaigning for a 'Black Students' Officer in Every Union' a priority.
- 3. Provide training and fact sheets for Students' Unions on how to support Black Students' officers.
- 4. To produce a "Black History Month Guide" and support events across campuses.
- 5. Continue working with the Network for Black Professionals and Operation Black Vote.

BSC BR 14102: Black Unemployment: Last To Be Hired, First To Be Fired

Conference Believes:

- 1. Government statistics show that since 2008, youth unemployment rate for Africans and Caribbeans has increased at almost twice the rate for white 16-24 year olds.
- 2. Unemployment rates for other Black communities also remain high and on the increase, and that there are gendered disparities and differences between groups/communities.
- 3. Reduced unemployment opportunities caused by public spending cuts reflect and perpetuate those gendered disparities, disproportionately affecting Black women.

- 4. Black unemployment is intrinsically related to all the other aspects of disadvantage and discrimination, including Educational under-attainment, welfare issues and criminalisation of Black communities.
- 5. Discrimination is still prevalent during the applications process.
- 6. A high proportion of Black FE learner are disproportionately affected by government cuts to apprenticeship opportunities, the removal of EMA and other changes introduced to the sector.
- 7. Issues with Black unemployment affect many sectors including HE teaching, which reduces the diversity of those sectors to serious detriment.
- 8. Black workers, and particularly Black migrant workers, are often overrepresented in low-level manual labour positions within institutions
- 9. That Universities and Colleges often exploit and overwork their labour force, just as in any other capital-incentivised institution
- 10. That racism and anti-migrant policies impinge on the right of the workers to defend their labour and suppress the political agency of Black migrant workers.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Securing sustainable and gainful employment for Black students and communities is a key concern for the campaign.
- 2. Public sector spending cuts disproportionately affect Black communities in terms of employment and utility.
- 3. Tackling the problem of Black unemployment should involve addressing racism within a wider social context, whilst also focusing on specific barriers affecting different groups differentially.
- 4. "Colour-blind" approaches, or those that conflate Black unemployment solely with low-income groups, and only focus on the latter, do not adequately confront all the root causes of the issue with due nuance.
- 5. That the 3 Cosas campaign at the University of London is a positive example of Black migrant worker fighting for their rights, alongside student support
- 6. That Black self-organisation and autonomy in Black struggles is paramount, and is exemplified by the 3 Cosas campaign
- 7. That as a group facing structural and economic disadvantage, Black students and Black international students may have to undertake low-level manual labour to support themselves through their studies

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To continue working with groups like Network of Black Professionals, Society of Black Lawyers, Teach First, Rare recruitment, Elevation Networks and Urban Lawyers to create sustainable employment schemes for Black graduates and FE students.
- 2. Extend the outreach of partner organisations and schemes to Black students on campuses.
- 3. To reaffirm the need to tackle discrimination in applications and interviews, and to work with employers to develop practical measures to addressing this.
- 4. To continue opposing and challenging all public sector cuts.
- 5. To support the 3 Cosas campaign and similar campaigns in solidarity with Black workers
- 6. To re-affirm our commitment to and support for Black self-organisation at all levels of the struggle, from workers to students to academia.

BSC BR 14103: Black International Students

Conference Believes:

1. Students who are both Black and international can experience a specific set of issues in addition to those faced by UK-domiciled Black students. This overlap is often overlooked even though they make up a large proportion of International students in the UK.

- 2. The NUS' No Place for Hate research found that being Black and of a foreign-nationality significantly increases the likelihood of experiencing hate incidents.
- 3. The NUS Race for Equality report found that Black international students were more likely to feel isolated from their institution.
- 4. UKVI's requirements have exacerbated institutional racist harassment of Black staff and students who are disproportionately targeted. These students may not be familiar with UK legislation around hate crime, making them particularly vulnerable.
- 5. International students are both more likely to experience Mental Health issues than home students but are less likely to seek help from support services. The introduction of an NHS levy would further restrict their access to healthcare services.
- 6. Incidents such as those at London Metropolitan University in 2012 reinforce the precarious nature of being an International Black student, particularly from a non-EU background.
- 7. That institutional racism, anti-immigrant xenophobia and this government's unprecedented level of restrictions against migrants has created a very hostile environment for international students, particularly those who are Black.
- 8. International students face extensive hardship due to their migrant status
- 9. Intense scrutiny from the UKVI and police and their institutions impinges on their ability to self-organise.
- 10. That the recent deportation of Yashika Bageerathi in the face of mass public opposition illustrates the need for a proactive campaign to defend international students.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. International students' support and welfare services should take into account the fact that many international students are Black and may experience racism both within the immigration process and on campus.
- 2. Recent developments within the UKVI disproportionately target Black people, including the formerly-proposed visa bonds and the 'Go Home' vans campaign.
- 3. Anti-immigration rhetoric is inherently racialised and invariably impacts Black students' experiences
- 4. That international students and migrants contribute extensively to the UK
- 5. That these contributions should not be quantified only in terms of economic benefit
- 6. In free and open borders
- 7. That the government has made clear through their actions that they will accept Black peoples' labour, but not tolerate their presence.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. Organise a conference for Black-international students which highlights the on-going issues faced and includes a 'know your rights' workshop.
- 2. To work alongside the International Students' Campaign to provide a briefing highlighting the issues faced by Black-International students and support measures
- 3. To continue working with Black Mental Health UK to raise awareness.
- 4. To continue challenging the racism of anti-immigration rhetoric and actively opposing measures levelled against students and migrants.
- 5. Campaign to eliminate discrimination from any attendance monitoring practices.
- 6. Work with the International Students Campaign to oppose discriminatory and racist legislative measures
- 7. Work with migrant advocacy groups to develop support networks for international students.
- 8. Build the argument for immigration to the UK beyond economic benefit
- 9. Support the Justice 4 Sanaz campaign
- 10. Support the campaign to bring back Yashika.

Anti-Racism

BSC_AR_14301: Stand Up To Racism and Fascism

Conference Believes:

- 1. The significant rise in racism and Islamophobia in Britain, and the far-right Europe.
- 2. The leader of the fascist British National Party (BNP) denies the Holocaust and calls for an 'all-white' Britain.
- 3. Institutional racism in the police continues to blight the lives of Black communities, with racist stop and search and deaths in custody.
- 4. ChildLine reported a 69% rise in number of calls from children who were victims of racist bullying in school.
- 5. The progressive scaling-back of civil liberties under the guise of 'anti-terrorism' laws from the Government.
- 6. That Muslim and Black individuals are disproportionately detained and subject to laws/policies like Schedule 7 and PREVENT
- 7. The recent arrest and charge of Moazzam Begg in Birmingham under very little, if any, real evidence.
- 8. That Student Rights is an organisation claiming to support 'freedom from extremism' on UK university campuses and mostly criticises speakers it sees as 'extremists' who have been invited by Islamic and Palestinian societies.
- 9. That Student Rights is a project of The Henry Jackson Society a neoconservative think tank whose associate director, Douglas Murray, has argued that "conditions for Muslims in Europe must be made harder across the board" and "all immigration into Europe from Muslim countries must stop".
- 10. That LSE, Goldsmith's, Birkbeck, Kingston and UCL Student Unions have voted in favour of condemning Student Rights.
- 11. That Student Rights' activities fuel Islamophobia, by disproportionately and unfairly targeting Muslim students.

- 1. Black people face the sharpest manifestations of racism and should therefore play a leading role in the fight against it.
- 2. Many mainstream politicians are ceding to UKIP and their reactionary anti-immigrant agenda.
- 3. Racism is being whipped up and used to scapegoat immigrants and asylum seekers to deliberately distract from the government's failure to deal with the economic crisis.
- 4. Unite Against Fascism has successfully worked with local campaigns, faith groups, MPs, politicians and community leaders to organise peaceful, pro-multicultural mobilisations to counter the English Defence League's protests of intimidation and ultimately set them back.
- 5. Multiculturalism has positively enriched British society; our food, music, culture and our shared heritage.
- 6. The student vote is powerful and can play a crucial role in stopping fascists in future elections
- 7. That the vagueness of anti-terror laws make them open to abuse by the state.
- 8. That Black and Muslim communities are disproportionately targeted/affected by antiterrorism legislature
- 9. That such measures are used to suppress and police dissent from the public against the government's domestic and foreign policy.

- 10. That the government is helping foster anti-Muslim/Islamophobic sentiment within society to scapegoat those communities.
- 11. That tackling Islamophobia is an integral part of the anti-racist struggle.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Work with Unite Against Fascism, faith groups, trade unions and Love Music Hate Racism to campaign against the far-right on the streets and at the ballot box, celebrate multiculturalism and stand up to racism.
- 2. Work with FOSIS, the Muslim Council of Britain and others, to challenge Islamophobia and the racist scapegoating of the Muslim community including the 'Prevent' agenda.
- 3. Reaffirm our commitment to 'no platform for fascists' and campaign nationally with Black communities, faith groups, trade unions, UAF and all anti-fascists to mobilise students to stop the far-right in future elections.
- 4. Continue working with the NUS International Students' Campaign to challenge attacks on international students.
- 5. Support the full implementation of the recommendations of the Macpherson Inquiry, family justice campaigns and StopWatch.
- 6. To oppose state legislature that encroaches on the right to freedom of speech, travel and assembly, particularly those directed against Muslim and Black communities.
- 7. To continue to actively oppose programmes like PREVENT within communities and on campuses and encourage SUs/Universities to condemn/disassociate from them.
- 8. To work with CAGE and provide information to students on knowing their rights.
- 9. To support Islamophobia Awareness Month.
- 10. To release a public statement/open letter addressed to Student Rights condemning them for their sensationalist stories demonising Muslims students in media, damaging campus cohesion and fueling Islamophobia in British society.
- 11. To circulate the 'Real Student Rights' petition to all Officers & students.
- 12. To form a Working Group, led by the Black Students Campaign, that will resist the efforts of Student Rights and encourage institutions/SU's to both reject unfair targeting of Muslim students, their events and political campaigns.

BSC_AR_14302: Justice for Mark Duggan

Conference Believes:

- 1. Black people are over-represented in deaths in police custody, or following contact with police.
- 2. According to the McPherson Report into the death of Stephen Lawrence, the police are institutionally racist.
- 3. According to research by the London School of Economics and Release, the British judicial system displays evidence of institutional racism.
- 4. According to Inquest, since 1991, on average one person a week dies in police custody, or following police contact.
- 5. No police officer has ever been convicted of murder.

- 1. No unarmed individual should be lawfully killed by the police.
- 2. Black communities should be supported in challenging false information spread by the police, IPCC and the media.
- 3. Stereotypes of black people are damaging for us and individuals and communities.
- 4. Black communities should be united in challenging institutional racism.

5. A fully accountable police force is the cornerstone of a properly functioning democracy

Conference Resolves:

- 1. Support the Duggan family in their legal challenge to the jury verdict.
- 2. Challenge media stereotyping of black people.
- 3. Challenge institutional racism at every part of the criminal justice system.
- 4. Support every family who has had a loved one killed by the police.
- 5. Push for community-led accountability of the police.

Equality In Education

BSC_EE_14401: For Equality in Education – Fighting Discrimination on Campuses

Conference Believes:

- 1. The NUS Black Students' Campaign 'Race for Equality' report highlighted some of the serious inequalities that exist in education. Experiences of racism, isolation, discrimination in the classroom, a degree attainment gap, a Eurocentric curriculum and lack of Black academic staff exposed the barriers that Black students face in education.
- 2. That these issues are being taken up and campaigned on across numerous campuses.
- 3. Racism faced by Black students is often further compounded by sexism, homophobia, transphobia and disability discrimination.
- 4. The Equality Act 2010 places a positive duty on Higher Education institutions to advance equality of opportunity for people of different racial groups
- 5. The existence of attainment gaps may 'suggests that systemic barriers to equality of outcomes still exist'
- 6. The NUS Black Students' Campaign produced the Race for Equality Report, which highlighted the issues of the Attainment Gap
- 7. The report highlighted how the attainment rate for Black students in high education is significantly lower than white students
- 8. The impact on further study and on their employability, 54.7% of white graduates move into full time paid employment compare to 42.8% of Black graduates.
- 9. That out of 18,510 lecturers in HE, 85 are of African/Caribbean heritage.
- 10. The number of African/Caribbean women lecturers is even more disproportionate.
- 11. This disparity is a clear example of structuralism racism within the academy.
- 12. Black lecturers face discrimination/marginalisation in the workplace, and are not afforded the same opportunities for professional progression.

- 1. Black students have an essential role to play in making education accessible for all and taking on discrimination.
- 2. Black academic staff are usually last to be employed, and first to be sacked by institutions.
- 3. There is also a view point which states the rationale for the gap on Black students which can be referred to as the 'deficit model'
- 4. The attainment gap exists as a result of multiple factors, such as institutional racism.
- 5. The NUS Black Students Campaign was part of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Race and Community inquiry into Race and Higher Education
- 6. That tackling issues of racism within academia involves addressing both those affecting students and academics.

- 7. That the Eurocentric curriculum is unrepresentative of Black peoples' historical contributions, perspectives, experiences and epistemologies.
- 8. That the lack of diversity within HE teaching maintains this lack of diversity within HE content.
- 9. That dealing with the lack of diversity within the curriculum and academic/senior positions are the minimal necessary measures in tackling the attainment gap.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Continue our campaigning to break down the barriers that hold back Black students from fulfilling our potential.
- 2. Re-affirm our commitment to cross-liberation; working with all NUS Liberation Campaigns and the International Students' Campaign to challenge inequality in education.
- 3. Continue our work with the All Party Parliamentary Group on Race and Community, the Runnymede Trust, the Higher Education Funding Council for England FCE and the Office For Fair Access, to make progress on the recommendations in the Race For Equality Report.
- 4. Affiliate to Black British Academics and unite with education trade unions and their Black sections to end discrimination.
- 5. Support student campaigns to liberate curriculums and the development of an institutional 'race equality charter mark'.
- 6. Support campaigns against excessive international students' fees and visa charges.
- 7. The campaign should work with relevant stakeholders to ensure we continue our work on attainment.
- 8. The campaign should produce a briefing on how to tackle the attainment gap
- 9. The campaign should continue its call for institutions to work with Blacks to tackle the issue of the Attainment Gap.
- 10. To work with/support groups including the British Black Studies Association in developing Black studies modules/departments.
- 11. To work alongside Black lecturers/sections in lobbying institutions to commit to more positive action in favour of race equality.
- 12. To lobby institutions to ensure Black students and lecturers are active participants in the development and implementation of race equality measures including the 'race equality charter mark'.

BSC_EE_14402: Defend Education and Fight Austerity

Conference Believes:

- 1. The government's continued austerity agenda is hitting Black students and other oppressed groups hard.
- 2. The government is in the process of privatising the student loans book.
- 3. One in two young Black people are currently unemployed due to a combination of racism and savage attacks on the public sector.

- 1. With annual fees increased to £9,000 Britain's education system has become one of the most expensive in the world. Abolishing the Education Maintenance Allowance a vital grant that has helped thousands of young Black students through further education has damaged life chances and opportunities.
- 2. If the student loans book is privatised we will see students burdened with even more debt.
- 3. The fight to defend education, the welfare state and vital public services has only just begun and we must resist.

- 4. There is an alternative to cuts, higher fees and paying more through a graduate tax. We need state investment to provide free education, not cuts. A NUS Black Students' Campaign briefing pointed out that the Government's own figures show that for every £1 invested in education the economy expands by £2.60. Cuts and higher fees are socially unjust and economically illiterate.
- 5. Investing in education is the only way to ensure Britain has a highly skilled, high growth future economy and that young people have the chance to fulfil their potential.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Oppose all methods of charging students more for education, including fees or graduate tax and reaffirm our support for free education.
- 2. Organise a demonstration against privatising the student loans book and student debt.
- 3. Prioritise the campaign to Bring Back EMA in England and defend it in the Nations as we approach the general election.
- 4. Re-affiliate to the Student Assembly Against Austerity and Black Activists Rising Against Cuts.
- 5. Support education staff acting to defend jobs, courses, #fairpayinHE and the quality of our education system.
- 6. Continue our work with trade unions and the TUC Race Equality Officer to defend Black student workers from exploitation and unemployment and organise with the TUC to fight Black youth unemployment.

BSC_EE_14403: Black Women and Education

Conference Believes

- 1. Systemic racism within the education system interacts with other societal oppressions to the further detriment of different groups of Black students.
- 2. This presents further barriers to Black Women, LGBT and Disabled students within education.

Conference Further Believes

- 1. These oppressions manifest in a number of ways within the education environment, including even sharper under-representation of Black women within union leadership positions, and further barriers to progression within academia.
- 2. That a holistic and intersectional approach is necessary to properly address under-attainment and under-representation of Black students.

Conference Resolves

- 1. To continue working alongside the other Liberation campaigns to support Black students in education.
- 2. To work with the Women's campaign in developing Black women in leadership workshops.
- 3. To hold an event on Black women in academia.
- 4. To support the Black Women's Forum UK with an annual conference.
- 5. For future research by the campaign into attainment and the Black student experience to factor in and consider the specificities of Black Women, LGBT and Disabled students' experience within education.

BSC_PJ_14201: International Peace and Justice

Conference Believes:

- 1. Black people are the overwhelming majority of humanity. Most live in countries affected by poverty due to 'Western' economic and military policies. Racism is used to maintain this inequality.
- 2. The USA alone spends \$500bn annually on its military. A fraction of this would provide universal access to basic education, clean water, healthcare, nutrition, HIV/AIDS medication, and tackle devastating international debt.
- 3. Israel's illegal siege on Gaza continues making life for Palestinians intolerable. Our Campaign lead to a huge breakthrough in NUS with an historic unanimous vote to condemn the siege on Gaza and the illegal occupation.
- 4. Climate change targets have been ignored and deprioritised causing environmental havoc and food shortages.
- 5. Countries in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean have struggled to recover from the damaging impact of colonisation and economic control that followed.
- 6. Climate change is the single biggest crisis threatening humanity today.
- 7. That countries of the Global South are first to be, and are most severely, impacted by the effects of climate change.
- 8. That the evacuation of the Carteret Islanders of Papua New Guinea, as the first whole community officially made refugee by climate change, represents a turning point in this crisis.
- 9. The history of colonialism and enslavement make Britain one of the wealthiest, most powerful nations on the planet today.
- 10. The legacies of colonialism and enslavement systematically underdeveloped societies in Africa, Asia and Latin America, as well as indigenous peoples in North America and Australasia
- 11. The effects of colonialism continue to underdevelop some communities in Africa, Asia and the Americas through unfair trade deals, structural adjustment policies and military domination.

- 1. The West has consistently supported dictatorships in the Middle East and North Africa: the people of these regions have the right to determine their own futures free from the interference of Western governments.
- 2. Movements for democracy and social progress should be supported in Latin America and Middle Fast.
- 3. The US-led invasions of Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya have led to deaths of hundreds of thousands of civilians. Former European colonial powers, France and Britain, are now attempting to re-colonise Africa.
- 4. Students have for decades campaigned for a better world and for peace and justice globally.
- 5. That the current government is failing to reach its environmental targets, being beholden to the interests of the market and fossil fuel companies
- 6. That claims blaming 'overpopulation' of countries in the Global South for the issue reproduce racist stereotypes, and ignore that Western overconsumption is the primary cause of climate change
- 7. That current levels of consumption and fossil fuel usage are entirely unsustainable.
- 8. The effectiveness of the 'Fossil Free campaign' to divest from the fossil fuel industry.
- 9. That indigenous peoples' rights are often abused by multinational energy corporations and Western governments.
- 10. For the Global South, environmental struggles are inherently struggles for their survival, societies and livelihoods.
- 11. Some gains have been made in the case of Mutua & Ors V Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the ongoing fight by the community of Mau Mau reparations interest.

12. The struggle for reparations by Caribbean islands is a step forward in the fight for global justice.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Support progressive campaigns that demand an end to global debt and poverty.
- 2. Oppose imperialist interventions in Africa, Asia and Caribbean which attempt to exploit natural resources.
- 3. Encourage colleges to commemorate National Slavery Memorial Day and International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.
- 4. Re-affiliate to Stop the War, support CND, Palestine Solidarity Campaign, and initiatives against wars and occupation of Iraq, Afghanistan, western intervention in the Middle-East and any attack on Iran.
- 5. Continue to support the progressive social movements in Latin America most notably in Venezuela and Ecuador.
- 6. Support boycotts of Israeli products produced on Palestinian settlements.
- 7. Join Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth in campaigns against climate change.
- 8. To support the Fossil Free campaign.
- 9. Support indigenous peoples' struggles, including the Tar Sands campaign.
- 10. To offer support to all campaigns for reparations for enslavement and colonisation, including the CARICOM in the Caribbean and the Mau Mau in Kenya, in addition to the new cases being built by Malaysia and Cyprus.
- 11. To support the Social Movement for African Reparations from the principled standpoint of Pan-African Reparations for Global Justice;
- 12. To support efforts towards building the NGO Popular Civil Society Forum on Reparations in the UK as well as the Europe wide NGO Consultative Council for African Reparations;
- 13. To lobby for the establishment of an All-Party Parliamentary Commission for Truth on Reparations in the Houses of Parliament;
- 14. To support the establishment of the Peoples International Tribunal for Global Justice and its benches at local, national and international levels;
- 15. To canvass support for these demands in the NUS as a whole and to support, promote and contribute to actualising these demands locally, nationally and internationally.

BSC_PJ_14202: The Congo

Conference Believes:

- 1. The conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, has claimed the lives of over 5 million people.
- 2. That mass killings, crimes against humanity, rape and displacement have all been a feature of the conflict, with government troops, rebels and UN peacekeepers implicated.
- 3. The concerning lack of coverage of the crisis in Western media.
- 4. The Congo's rich natural resource reserve.
- 5. The role of international corporations such as Nokia in perpetuating the crisis through the use of conflict minerals in their products.
- 6. The IMF and World Bank's involvement, with 'poverty-reduction' loan programs for the Congo.
- 7. The Campaign's history of campaigning for International peace and justice.

Conference Further Believes:

1. This Internationalism is a key part of the Campaign, as a matter of principle and social responsibility.

- 2. Directly relating Black students in the UK with the issues affecting their homelands and diasporic communities helps nurture an awareness of the wider context and historical framework of imperialist issues.
- 3. The need to raise consciousness and awareness of the crisis with students in the UK.
- 4. The need to provide pro-active steps towards a resolution of the conflict to students in the UK.
- 5. Transnational financial corporations do not have altruistic intentions for their involvement.
- 6. Western military intervention is never justified as a solution.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To work with the Pan-African Students' Union to help raise awareness about the issues across campuses and Black student groups.
- 2. Lobby companies known for using conflict minerals in their products to publicly and actively commit to cessation of the practice.
- 3. To oppose all forms of Western intervention.

BSC_PJ_14203: Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions

Conference Believes:

- 1. The ongoing 66-year long occupation of Palestine, Israel's multitude of human rights and international law violations, its flagrancy and unaccountability to the international community.
- 2. The Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions (BDS) campaign called for by Palestinian civil society in 2005 to pressure Israel into complying with international law.
- 3. The repression used against BDS campaigners both in the UK and abroad, including the recent suspension of students at Witwatersrand University, South Africa for protesting a concert recital on campus.
- 4. The numerous BDS successes on campuses this past year, including those against G4S at Southampton, King's College, Birmingham and Kent University.
- 5. The racism directed against Africans and African migrants and refugees within Israel, including internment-without-trial of asylum seekers and anti-African riots.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Israeli expansion on Palestinian land to be a settler-colonial project, predicated on the ethnic cleansing and expulsion of its indigenous people.
- 2. That racism is systemic within Israeli state policy, with anti-Arab, anti-African and anti-migrant discrimination.
- 3. The success in dismantling South African apartheid was due in part to international pressure and sanctions against that regime.
- 4. That international solidarity from students is a crucial part of the Palestine liberation struggle.
- 5. That international solidarity should be conducted on the terms set by the Palestinian people, as per the BDS campaign.
- 6. That the three aims of the BDS campaign are the necessary preconditions for any true peace in the Middle East.
- 7. That the Israeli government is feeling the pressure from international BDS.
- 8. That all other methods of pressuring Israel and the ending the occupation have failed.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To continue the Campaign's long-standing commitment to the Palestinian cause and anticolonialism.
- 2. To support Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaigns initiated by students.

- 3. To lobby Institutions and Unions to divest from key BDS target companies, including G4S, Veolia and Eden Springs.
- 4. To work with BRICUP and lobby institutions to adopt academic boycott of Israeli universities.
- 5. To disseminate resources and materials on how to run successful BDS campaigns.
- 6. To support the annual Israeli Apartheid Week initiative.

BSC PJ 14204: Syria

Conference Believes:

- The Syrian Revolution has turned into a bloody civil war, since 18th March 2011, when Assad's Security Forces first fired on protesters calling for reform; 150,000 people have been killed, a third of them civilians.
- 2. They are hundreds of Syrian Students in the United Kingdom, who are under deep financial/psychological difficulties because of the unrest.
- 3. The British government must make an uncompromising commitment to supporting the rights and freedoms of the Syrian people.
- 4. NUS should ensure that the plight of Syrian students in the UK is not overlooked by the government.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To call on the Government to exert all efforts in finding a political solution to end the conflict.
- 2. To research the views of Syrian Students in the UK and take the lead from them to ensure we best represent the views of students that are effected by the conflict.
- 3. To request UK institutions to make hardship grants, scholarships and bursaries available to all affected Syrian students, whether sponsored or privately funded, to cover their living expenses.
- 4. To support the Syria Students UK Fees Campaign and other Syrian Charities to raise the plight of the Syrian People.

Rules Revision

BSC_RR_14501: Black Students Campaign Standing Orders

Conference Resolves:

 To delete the current Black Students Campaign Standing Orders and replace with the new standing orders

Policy Passed At Black Students Conference 2015

Black Representation

BSC_BR_15101: Creative Arts Be Given Black Hearts

Conference Believes:

- 1. Every day we watch our TVs and we see just white people being represented on our stages and screens.
- 2. With talks of making society more diverse and represented in all angles, why then do we see EastEnders have only 8 black actors?
- 3. Opportunities are not being given to black creatives and the jobs are low.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The attainment gap for getting into Drama Schools and jobs if from a Black background.
- 2. Arts education is being cut and the first to get hit are the deprived areas, most usually with black people and their dreams die.
- 3. Organisations have been moving this forward but there is no youth voice or voice for the schools or college leavers trying to enter the industry or make change.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Work alongside companies fighting for Racial Diversity on our screens and stages such as Equity and Act for Change and Tamasha Theatre Company.
- 2. Hold a session on the Arts for young people from Black Backgrounds to have a voice heard!
- 3. Create a toolkit for Black People getting into the Arts

BSC_BR_15102: Charity Commission

Conference Believes:

- 1. The Education Act 1994 restricted the activity of Unions to that which benefitted 'members as students'.
- 2. Since the 2006 Charities Act, the Charity Commission has scrutinised and investigated Unions for their political activity, attempting to further restrict Unions.
- 3. This all serves to depoliticise Unions and conflicts with their fundamental roles as active campaigning hodies
- 4. Concurrently, through its collusion with the government's PREVENT initiative, the Charity Commission operates guidelines for charity trustees for avoiding charities being used for 'purposes of extremism'.
- 5. In recent years, the Charity Commission has investigated more and more charities on the suspicion on use of 'extremism'.
- 6. According to a Claystone report in 2014, over a quarter of charities investigated for this were Muslim charities, and the Commission has been accused of targeting Muslim charities.
- 7. This has many implications for those charities beyond reputational damage, including the freezing of bank accounts without any conviction or proof of wrongdoing.
- 8. William Shawcross' appointment as chair of the Charity Commission provoked criticism on his ability to act independently, given his neoconservative views including supporting the War on Iraq and defending Guantanamo Bay as well as publicly supporting the Conservative Party in the 2010 elections.
- 9. Prior to joining the Commission Shawcross was a director of the Henry Jackson Society, an expressly pro-NATO, pro-capitalist, pro-military expansionist neoconservative thinktank.

10. Other appointed Commission members include Peter Clarke, previously Head of the Anti-Terrorist Branch and National Co-ordinator of Terrorist Investigations, who headed the false 'Trojan Horse' investigations into primary schools in Birmingham.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The Charity Commission has moved to taking on a more investigation-based nature from its intended regulatory function.
- 2. The Charity Commission is not a neutral body
- 3. Restricting charities and student unions in their activity is weakening the role of civil society to effect positive, active change in the UK.
- 4. SU Trustee Boards have overturned policy democratically voted upon by students, operating narrow interpretations of Charity law.
- 5. At Birmingham, this power to overturn policy was exercised by the Trustee Board beyond the powers legitimated to them, at the expense of liberation groups there.
- 6. Despite this, students have little to no actual recourse in addressing trustee boards abusing their powers.
- 7. Shawcross was re-appointed by the Cabinet office this year before the General Election.
- 8. The government has been maneuvering the Charity Commission and selecting its executive members to satisfy its own neoconservative ideological agenda.
- 9. The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) identified the widespread perception on the Commission's partiality and suggested a number of ways of addressing this when appointing the chair, and greater scrutiny and accountability of the Commission.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To condemn the Charity Commission for its excessive and disproportionate investigation of SUs and Muslim charities.
- 2. To work with the Union Development Zone to provide resources for Union officers and trustees on how to navigate charity law and remain political and campaign-led institutions.
- 3. To work with the Union Development Zone to affirm our belief that student democracy should be respected, and that SUs should be student-led and student-governed.
- 4. Lobby for greater accountability and scrutiny for the Charity Commission, including through the enactment of the NCVO's suggestions.
- 5. Lobby NUS to do the same.

BSC_BR_15103: Defending Autonomous Liberation Spaces

Conference Believes:

- 1. There is a long tradition of autonomous spaces existing for liberation groups within wider structures Black/Women's/LGBTQ/Disabled-only caucuses, safe spaces etc.
- 2. These were fought for and created as spaces of empowerment for members of groups traditionally excluded from wider organising spaces, and enable them to discuss and organise away from the microaggressions, oppressive relations and prevailing social dynamics found in wider spaces.
- 3. These spaces were and are, the foundation of politically autonomous liberatory self-organisation, and should be defended as a right.
- 4. These spaces and liberation autonomy more generally, have come under attack lately.
- 5. Self-organisation among oppressed groups is being portrayed as 'reverse-discrimination' and Black student groups are being denied the right to define their membership.
- 6. We stand by the principle of self-organisation, and of Black student representatives being elected by, for, and being accountable to Black students only.
- 7. This must be respected across NUS.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Society is still racist, sexist, LGBTQ-phobic and ableist.

 Therefore, the need for autonomous liberation spaces continues.
- 2. The right for these spaces to exist and organise autonomously should be defended.
- 3. That the concepts of 'Equality and Diversity' and 'post-racial'-ism have had a corrosive effect on liberation and conversations on race, depoliticising liberation roles and reducing Black liberation to a matter of 'diversity management'.
- 4. Black liberation is political: we seek racial justice, not just race equality.
- 5. The concept of 'autonomy' has become co-opted as of late by institutions seeking to evade criticism or accountability for poor practice.
- 6. We re-affirm here that we defend the autonomy of liberation groups, without falsely conflating 'autonomy' with political immunity.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To call on NUS to publicly reaffirm its commitment to liberation group autonomy and the right of defining students to govern their affairs.
- 2. To work with the other Liberation campaigns to develop resources for liberation groups on winning the argument for self-organisation, and on integrating training into NUS training sessions on the fundamental need for liberation autonomy and self-organisation.

BSC_BR_15104: Black Unemployment and Underemployment

Conference Believes:

- 1. Poverty and unemployment disproportionately affect Black people in Britain, compounded by structural racism and institutional discrimination.
- 2. Public sector cuts under 'austerity' serve to doubly impact Black people, as both greater users of public services and as a significant section of its workforce, particularly Black women.
- 3. Since 2010, the number of young Black people aged 16-24 in long-term unemployment has increased by 50%.
- 4. Many Black students take up jobs to support themselves, alongside studies.
- 5. Black workers are concentrated in low-paid sectors of employment to a greater degree than white workers.
- 6. Where employment is secured, under-employment remains an issue many Black workers are employed on a non-permanent basis, or on zero-hour contracts.
- 7. According to the TUC's Living on the Margins report, Black workers aged 20-29 are twice as likely to be working on a temporary basis as their white counterparts.
- 8. Casualised labour creates a precarious workforce where workers are afforded little job security, often cannot make ends meet and face greater risk of exploitation/discrimination from employers.
- 9. Race discrimination in employment is rife.

10. NUS' Race Matters report on Black staff in SUs reported over 35% of Black staff disagreeing that they had access to career opportunities, 18% reporting experiences of racism within their workplace and many identifying a lack of serious race equality-focused measures to support Black staff.

- 1. The issues affecting Black students persist through to employment in the education sector.
- 2. Casualised employment also impacts those working in academia, with more full-time work being replaced with temporary/part-time/agency positions.
- 3. Black academics in HE are for the most part more junior to their white counterparts, earn less and progress less.
- 4. Black academic staff face more barriers to progress and promotion within their field and are more likely to work on short-term contracts, breeding insecurity.

- 5. The number of Black people in senior academic positions remains desperately low only 85 of 18,550 professors in the UK are of African/Caribbean heritage; of these only 17 are women.
- 6. Zero-hour contracts touted as 'flexible' benefit employers, not employees.
- 7. The proliferation of zero hours contracts serves to create a false picture of employment in the UK what is needed is secure employment guaranteeing workers a sustainable level of living.
- 8. Job insecurity pacifies Black people in academia; hindering our ability to confront the many issues surrounding race in these institutions without facing the risk of being out of work.
- 9. Many Black students in the movement may seek to progress to working in academia and SU staff; steps should be taken to support Black presence in academics at all levels.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To work with TUC Black Workers and Race Relations committee to eliminate racial discrimination in employment practices, and develop better legislation and safeguards for private sector employment and against race discrimination.
- 2. Campaign for the abolition of zero hour contracts.
- 3. Campaign against casualisation in academia, alongside the NUS Postgraduate Campaign.
- 4. To work with the Fighting Against Casualisation in Education (FACE) campaign against casualisation of academic staff, and to raise the issues of Black academics.
- 5. To support any future FACE conferences.
- 6. To join the anti-casualisation demo at Warwick University on June 19th 2015.
- 7. To produce a briefing on the effects of casualisation on Black academics.

BSC_BR_15105: Defending Youth Services

Conference Believes:

- 1. NUS polling indicates that 63% of students have been involved in some form of youth organisation across the statutory and voluntary sectors.
- 2. Youth services have helped Black people failed by the education system to put the pieces together again.
- 3. Youth services can provide a pathway for young Black people to get politically engaged.
- 4. Legally, councils must provide "sufficient leisure-time activities" for teenagers, but only "so far as reasonably practical" with no other guarantees in place, making youth service funding an easy target when making cuts.
- 5. The last three years have seen some 40% of cuts to youth work, and this continues with some local authorities cutting services by over 90%.
- 6. Cuts in services contribute to a national shortage of placements for Youth Work and Community students.
- 7. In 2014 funding to Funky Dragon the voice of young people in Wales was cut completely, leaving no representation of youth voice in Wales.
- 8. Similarly to students' unions, youth organisations provide a range of activities, rely heavily on volunteers and focus on youth leadership.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To work with the Society and Citizenship Zone to campaign for government to introduce a statutory duty for youth work with guaranteed quality services that are concerned with the personal and social education of young people.
- 2. To support anti-cuts campaigns for youth services.

BSC_BR_15106: Strengthening Black Representation: Black Students' Campaigns on Every Campus

Conference Believes:

- 1. Black people are under-represented in key positions of influence, from politics, the media, business and judiciary.
- 2. That one step in beginning to address racism and inequality within our institutions is with Black people across leadership and decision-making structures in our SUs, leading the conversation on our terms.
- 3. Getting a Black students' officer in every union is an ongoing priority for this campaign, ensuring a minimum level of Black representation within our SUs.
- 4. Black students' officers, where they exist, are mostly unpaid and often under-resourced and under-supported.
- 5. Black students' campaigns (or association/committees/forums) can provide support for Black students' officers, sharing their workload whilst also providing a greater diversity of input and perspectives.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. This year has seen a record number of Black students getting elected in their SUs, as well as to the NUS' National Executive Council and committees.
- 2. This year, the first ever Black Sabbs network meeting was held with Black officers from across the UK.
- 3. Years of Black student self-organisation are bearing results.
- 4. We are correct to assert the principle of Black students electing our own representatives throughout the student movement. This must be respected across NUS.
- 5. Black students' association/committees/forums can work to provide spaces and lead on projects addressing the political, academic, welfare and social needs of Black students.
- 6. Black students' campaigns should be politically autonomous, as well as being accountable to and led by Black students.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To bring together and develop Black student leaders and activists through the Black Students' Winter Conference, the Black Sabbs Network and BSC Regional meetings.
- 2. To adopt the campaign for an autonomous Black students' campaigns on every campus.
- 3. To develop a toolkit and resources on establishing Black students' campaigns within Unions.
- 4. To continue to support the campaign for a Black students' officer in every union, and for increased levels of institutional support for these officer positions.
- 5. To continue supporting Black students running in election by providing resources and a comprehensive toolkit.

BSC_BR_15107: Black Students demand Human Rights!

Conference believes:

- 1. Conference believes that the Human Rights Act of 1998 is essential supporting an equal society.
- 2. Conference believes that citizens of the UK should have option to overrule UK court decisions in European Court of Human Rights.
- 3. Black students' need legal protection from discrimination.
- 4. The UK government has pledged to replace or scrap the Human Rights act within its first hundred days of office.

Conference further believes:

1. Conference notes that the Human Rights Act of 1998 covers all the rights included in the European Convention.

These rights are: Right to life, right not to be tortured or subjected to inhumane treatment, right not to be held as a slave, right to liberty and security of the person, right to a fair trial, right not be retrospectively convicted for a crime, right to a private and family life, right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, right to freedom of expression, right to freedom of assembly and association, right to marriage, right to an effective remedy, right not to be discriminated against, the right to the peaceful enjoyment of one's property, and the right to an education.

2. The Act also imposes a duty upon governments to provide free and fair elections.

Conference resolves to:

- 1. NUS Black students' campaign should support the Human Rights Act.
- 2. NUS Black students' campaign should lobby against any changes to the Human Rights Act.
- 3. NUS Black students' campaign should create a campaign focused on supporting the Human Rights Act.
- 4. In the event of the Human Rights Act being changed/replaced, NUS Black Students' campaign should lobby for the act to include all articles as listed in conference further resolved.

International Peace and Justice

BSC_PJ_15201: Academic Solidarity with Palestine

Conference Believes:

- 1. That education is resistance, and that the struggle for education lies at a key nexus of the Palestine liberation struggle.
- 2. Israeli academic institutions are part of the Israeli colonial machinery, actively contributing to the Zionist expansionist settler project, discriminating against Palestinians at an institutional level, and developing the weaponry used for the ethnic cleansing of Palestinian people.
- 3. Concurrently, due to the effects of the Israeli occupation, Palestinian academia is heavily under pressure, internationally isolated and under-resourced.
- 4. The Right 2 Education campaign, launched in Birzeit University in the West Bank, is an annual campaign highlighting the effects of occupation on the Palestinians' right to education.
- 5. That this Campaign supports comprehensive boycott of Israel in line with BDS, including academic boycott.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Academia is not a neutral space, and both in research and praxis has never been an apolitical endeavour.
- 2. It has, and continues to be, used and manipulated to justify imperialism, racism and oppression, entrenching colonial narratives and reproducing power dynamics of domination.
- 3. That this February, SOAS in London became the first university in Europe to successfully carry a vote for academic boycott.
- 4. The argument for academic boycott should be normalised within academic spaces.
- 5. That strengthening ties with Palestinian academic institutions, through academic exchange and twinning, is also important for developing true solidarity with Palestinian students.
- 6. That academic boycott against Israel and academic twinning with Palestine are complimentary campaigns, affirming the right of academic freedom that is, the right for education to act as a liberating mechanism that benefits all people, not an oppressive tool.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To affiliate with the Right 2 Education campaign
- 2. To affiliate to PSCABI (Palestinian Students' Campaign for the Academic Boycott of Israel)

- 3. To work with UCU, BRICUP and the NUS Postgraduate Campaign on forming a national strategy for developing academic boycott, including a conference on academic boycott.
- 4. Facilitate regular academic exchanges between the Black Students' Campaign and the Islamic University of Gaza.
- 5. Develop a plan for delegations from the Black Students' Campaign to Palestine.

BSC_PJ_15202: International Peace and Justice

Conference Believes:

- 1. Black people form the majority of humanity.
- 2. Solidarity with Black people worldwide is a key strand of our campaigning; we do not have the luxury of separating the struggle against racism that we face, from the struggles of our families in the Global South.
- 3. Black people worldwide face the ravages of colonialism, the threat of neo-colonialism, hyperexploitation under capitalism, the pillaging of natural resources, the 'War on Terror', the brunt of climate change, IMF/World Bank debt and the poison of neoliberal market reform .
- 4. The West continually installs and props up client regimes and dictators throughout the Global South, smothering the people's self-determination and co-opting social movements for their own ends.
- 5. The deep societal fault lines left in the wake of colonialism are now being manipulated by those seeking to further destabilise regions in the Middle East and Africa for their own gain through proxy wars.
- 6. Time and time again, the acts of Western-backed groups such as NATO in the Global South have betrayed ulterior motives.
- 7. The Saudi Arabia-led Operations 'Decisive Storm' and 'Renewed Hope' were launched against the Houthi rebels in Yemen.
- 8. These are supported by USA, UK and many Gulf nations.
- 9. The toll taken by the close of Decisive Storm was 1,000+ dead, 3,500+ injured and hundreds of thousands displaced; this has risen under Renewed Hope.
- 10. The civil war in Yemen is creating a spiraling humanitarian crisis and has wider regional implications.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Lead by the Black Students' Campaign and against the backdrop of Israel's assault on Gaza last summer, the NUS finally adopted Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel.
- 2. The student movement should debate, discuss and act in solidarity with international struggles.
- In 2016 a vote will be taken on the future of the UK's Trident nuclear weapon system, a replacement of which is projected to cost between £55-100billion of public money which could be spent on public services.
- 4. The intentions of actors like Saudi and the USA in the region are never altruistic; this attack is an attempt to strengthen/maintain their political influence.
- 5. The Yemeni people have long-suffered under reactionary Western-backed regimes, the state terrorism of drone warfare and the pain of civil wars.
- 6. The narrative of this being merely a sectarian conflict reduces issues of complex geopolitical, tribal and ethnic relations sustained over decades to a simplistic 'Sunni vs Shia' problem.
- 7. We should reject this reductionist narrative, and affirm our support for the long-suppressed self-determination of the Yemeni people.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To continue to oppose Western interventions in Africa, Asia, South America and the Middle East in all their disguises from proxy wars to 'humanitarian interventions' working with groups such as the Pan African Students' Union
- 2. To continue to support Boycott, Divestment and Sanction against Israel, and encourage student organisations and campaigns to do the same.

- 3. To work with Campaign Against the Arms Trade and CND in campaigning against arms companies like BAE Systems, and to lobby against the renewal of Trident.
- 4. To continue to tackle climate change and ecolonialism.
- 5. To call on the UK government to withdraw support for Saudi Arabia's attacks on Yemen and work towards a negotiated settlement.
- 6. To work with anti-Arms Trade companies against companies trading with Saudi Arabia.

Anti-Racism

BSC_AR_15301: Counter-Terrorism and Security Act

Conference Believes:

- 1. The government's Counter-Terrorism and Security Act places a statutory requirement on public bodies including universities to 'prevent people being drawn into terrorism'.
- 2. PREVENT and the Government's 'anti-extremism' agenda have been used to create an expansive surveillance architecture to spy on the public and to police dissent, systematically targeting Black people and Muslims.
- 3. The Government's anti-terrorism/security policy is fundamentally flawed in its approach; its operant concepts of 'extremism' and 'radicalism' are ill-defined and open to abuse for political ends.
- 4. The legal process under anti-terrorism law remains opaque and its application arbitrary.
- 5. The Act also permits the temporary exclusion of individuals, including British nationals, suspected of engaging in 'terrorist-related activity' from returning to Britain.
- 6. In effect, this poses an additional threat to people from the Global South, and/or who come from politically volatile countries.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The Act further criminalises Muslims and Black people, and comes amidst a campaign of fear and demonisation from the government.
- 2. Islamophobia is massively on the rise across Europe, is state-sponsored and legitimised by the mainstream media.
- 3. The government's identified 'warning signs' of "radicalisation" problematise and renders suspect those with mental health difficulties.
- 4. Psychiatry has historically been used to pathologise behaviours of non-White people in the West, and PREVENT carries forward this tradition into the 21st century.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To publicly oppose the Act, and alongside civil liberties groups, call upon the government to repeal it immediately.
- 2. Condemn the Home Office for its treatment of mental health issues.
- 3. To reaffirm our unreserved opposition to the PREVENT initiative.
- 4. Work with UCU, Unite and Muslim student organisations to develop a campaign against Prevent and the Act on campuses.
- 5. Develop and roll out anti-Prevent workshops and resources.
- 6. To work with the Disabled Students' Campaign to lobby for the removal of PREVENT teaching from healthcare qualifications.
- 7. To call for the Government's anti-extremism agenda to be thoroughly reviewed and overhauled.
- 8. To support an independent review into the legality of the proposals under the Equality and Human Rights Act 2010.

BSC AR 15302: Black Lives Matter

Conference Believes:

- 1. The Black Lives Matter movement has raised a global discussion about the nature of police brutality and institutional racism.
- 2. In response to the murders of Black people by the police, mass unrest and uprising have taken place across the USA and elsewhere.
- 3. The Black Students' Campaign co-hosted the Black Lives Matter Ferguson solidarity tour UK this year, bringing together activists from Ferguson with family justice campaigns, students and Black communities across the UK to address state brutality and the shared struggle.
- 4. Despite the IPCC, no police officer has been convicted of murder since 1969
- 5. The police are agents of the state, and maintain a capitalist white supremacist patriarchal social order.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Black people experience disproportionate violence in psychiatric wards, Black women are fearful of and often ignored by police when reporting gender-based violence, Black Muslims (or perceived Muslims) are targeted by counter-terrorism powers and Black Trans people are disproportionately criminalised through homelessness and transphobic associations with sexwork
- 2. We cannot reform the police 'from the inside'.
- 3. Self defence is the best defence from state violence, through social, legal, educational, protest and direct action methods.
- 4. Police monitoring projects promoting community-led accountability of the police and defending against abuse of police power are active in the UK.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. To reach out to movements against police brutality in the USA and maintain communication between campaigns in the UK and abroad.
- 2. Organise a summit on police and state violence alongside the Welfare Zone, Society and Citizenship Zone and Anti-Racism and Anti-Fascism committee, and provide briefings and resources on know-your-rights.
- 3. Support Police Monitoring groups and projects, and provide them with resources for their work.
- 4. Work with StopWatch and Society for Black Lawyers in lobbying for complete overhaul of police powers, and hold the police force accountable for abuse of powers.
- 5. To encourage SUs and SAs to affiliate with United Families and Friends Campaign and community-led police monitoring groups to support their work.
- 6. To incorporate legal observer and know-your-rights training into BSC training sessions.

BSC_AR_15303: Defending the Right to Protest and Diverse Political Expression

Conference Believes:

1. Political expression can take a number of forms.

- 2. These include negotiations to marches to direct and disruptive action.
- 3. There should be a respectful acceptance of plurality when it comes to political expression.
- 4. The media often attempts to impose a dichotomy between 'good', 'peaceful' and non-disruptive forms of protest and expression vs. 'bad', 'violent' and disruptive forms.
- 5. NUS has in the past condemned students for taking up more disruptive forms of action and has legitimised this destructive dichotomy and demonised student activism.
- 6. No one should be criminalised for their right to protest within the confines of the law.
- 7. The police are committed to criminalising protestors anyway, and the state is committed to limiting the scope of 'legitimate' and legal dissent to that which is, ultimately, passive and inoffensive.

8. At the recent Westfield 'die-in' protest co-hosted by BSC, police arrested protestors and put them through the legal system on trumped up charges.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. There is a heavily racialised aspect to the depictions of protestors.
- 2. This has been evidenced by the media's portrayal of Black people in the recent uprisings in Baltimore, Ferguson and the UK where Black people have been labeled as "thugs", gang-members or dismissed as mindlessly/inherently violent.
- 3. The 'violence' of protest invariably pales compared to the violence of state racism, sexism, brutality and poverty.
- 4. The law cannot define what is moral.
- 5. Black people have a proud history of struggle against oppression by any means necessary.
- 6. Power is never conceded voluntarily, and no significant social movement in history has achieved radical aims through non-disruptive or 'peaceful' action alone.
- 7. The police are institutionally racist.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Work with Defend the Right to Protest in providing know-your-rights training to students and community organisations taking part in protest actions, and in challenging attacks on the right to protest or organise.
- 2. Challenge racist media depictions and caricatures of Black people taking part in action.
- 3. Adopt a diversity of tactics and action in BSC's activism.
- 4. Continue to support Black-led direct action.

BSC_AR_15304: Intersectionality: At the Heart of Liberation

Conference Believes:

- 1. Intersectionality is a term coined by Kimberle Crenshaw, a Black woman professor, describing the way oppressive structures are interconnected, and how people such as Black women face multiple oppressions in society, in specific ways.
- 2. That racism, sexism, LGBTQ-phobia and ableism cannot be examined separately or independent of each other, especially for those people who define into multiple liberation groups.
- 3. That erasure of intersectionally marginalised groups via underrepresentation is a form of oppression within itself.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Intersectionality is incredibly important within all NUS liberation campaigns (Black, Disabled, LGBT, Women)
- 2. That we do not live single-issue lives, therefore intersectionality should be at the heart of everything the Black Students' Campaign stands for.
- 3. That intersectionality has been hijacked by so-called 'progressives' to dilute and further marginalise oppressed groups, in favour of particular oppressions.
- 4. That intersectionality should inform liberation and activism in practice, not merely be used to showcase one's credentials.
- 5. The Black Students Campaign hosts a Black Women's Conference every year through the Black Women's Forum.
- 6. That QTIPOC* are often erased, tokenized, and underrepresented within liberation spaces.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. To host an annual QTIPOC conference, in collaboration with the NUS LGBT BME Subcommittee, and other relevant organisations.
- 2. To deliver intersectionality workshops alongside the NUS Liberation campaigns
- 3. Continue to work with Black reps on other liberation committees
- 4. Highlight the misuse of the concept of intersectionality to marginalise Black voices
- 5. To invite a minimum of three QTIPOC speakers per event, and one QTIPOC speaker per panel discussion.

BSC_AR_15305: Xenophobia and Fascism

Conference Believes:

- This General Election has been marked by deeply toxic debate around immigration, race and multiculturalism; scapegoating migrants and Black people for the ills of the economic crisis, 'austerity' and neoliberalism.
- 2. All major parties are equally guilty of adopting and legitimising racist rhetoric and policies Labour and UKIP alike.
- 3. By blaming 'immigrants' and Black people for the misdeeds of government, and compounding this with nationalist and 'little islander' rhetoric, the state is directly responsible for the recent resurgence of fascism and white extremism terrorising Black communities.
- 4. Islamophobia and the PREVENT initiative are demonising and criminalising Black communities.
- 5. The British government and EU are more concerned with protecting borders than protecting lives. The UK's decision to withdraw support for search and rescue operations for migrants in the Mediterranean Sea condemns thousands of migrants seeking a better life to death.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The wealth of the Western world is thanks almost entirely to the theft and pillaging of the Global South under colonialism.
- 2. The British welfare state was built on the exploitation of the people of the Global South.
- 3. Black people should not now have to beg our worth as people to enjoin in societies built at our expense.
- 4. Fascist activity has spread across university campuses, from Warwick to the University of Birmingham, as well as proliferating through society.
- 5. Fascism presents an existential threat to Black people, LGBTQ people, migrants, Jewish and Muslim people.
- 6. The function of fascist marches is normalise this presence, creating a climate that makes outward racism more acceptable in our society.
- 7. The No Platform policy for fascists was designed to minimise and neutralise the spread of fascism and prevent this normalising process.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Work with Movement Against Xenophobia, International Students' Campaign and Operation Black Vote to challenge anti-migrant rhetoric and hatemongering.
- 2. Reaffirm our support for No Platform for fascists.

- 3. Work with the Antifascist Network to combat fascist activity on campuses and in communities.
- 4. Call on the UK government to resume search and rescue operations for migrants at sea.

BSC_AR_15306: Racist Visa Regulation and Asylum Seekers

Conference believes:

^{*}Queer Trans Intersex People Of Colour

- 1. Migrants and International students, who are predominantly Black, face a lot of discrimination based on their nationality.
- 2. Asylum seekers face acute discrimination in the UK, in terms of access to education and wider social disadvantage.
- 3. The new Immigration Act makes the situation much more difficult for these students and migrants.
- 4. Vast majority of these rules disproportionately affect Black students and Black migrants.
- 5. Asylum seekers awaiting decision or granted discretionary leave to remain cannot access student loans or grants yet must pay international student fees.
- 6. The detention system for asylum seekers and those awaiting deportation is brutal, with many reports of violence, racism, sexism and abuse by guards and staff.
- 7. That Black LGBTQ asylum seekers are specifically targeted by the Home Office and suffer high deportation rates.

Conference further believes:

- 1. In free and open borders, and the right of people to live in the UK with dignity and with full rights.
- 2. Many of the changes included in the 2014 Immigration Act will adversely affect Black British people.
- 3. In particular, landlords will prefer to rent to 'British looking'/White tenants, causing further discrimination in the housing market.
- 4. Cases of LGBT+ asylum seekers such as Aderonke Apata and Orashia Edwards who were forced to 'prove' their sexuality (and in Aderonke's case, had their identity flatly denied by the government) betray the deeply discriminatory and archaic process, and the dehumanisation of asylum seekers.
- 5. The University of Sheffield recently began providing scholarships for asylum seekers.

Conference resolves:

- 1. NUS Black Students Campaign wholeheartedly condemns these changes.
- 2. NUS BSC to oppose and campaign against any further discriminatory policies against migrants
- 3. Lobby for more comprehensive financial support for asylum seekers from institutions.
- 4. NUS BSC to work closely with NUS International Students Campaign to oppose and campaign against the implementation of these changes.
- 5. Lobby for reform of the asylum seeker process, and against institutionally LGBT-phobic requirements.
- 6. Support the cases for justice for Aderonke, Orashia and anti-deportation campaigns.
- 7. Work with Movement for Justice to shut down the racist, sexist, LGBT-phobic detention system.
- 8. To work with IRMO (the Indoamerican Refugee Migrant Organisation) to provide information and collaborate on campaigning ideas that specifically affect the UK Latin American community.
- 9. To contact, express solidarity with, assist in campaigning, and remain connected with organisations like UKLGIG, Movement For Justice, Out And Proud Diamond Group.
- 10. For NUS Black Students Campaign to encourage and support Black LGBTQ+ international students to get involved in the campaign, and to fight for their right to remain.

Equality In Education

BSC_EE_15401: Equality in Education – For a Free and Liberated Education System

Conference Believes:

- 1. The NUS Black Students' Campaign 'Race for Equality' report highlighted some of the serious inequalities that exist in education that prevent Black students' success.
- 2. Amongst these is an educational culture that alienates and excludes Black students, and a curriculum that inferiorises and erases Black knowledge and Black experience.

- 3. Tuition fees and living costs associated with education serve as barriers to Black people entering and remaining in education.
- 4. This Campaign has long stood for free education against tuition fees or any form of graduate tax, and for an education system that is publically funded through progressive taxation of the wealthy.
- 5. The wider campaign and discussion around free education sometimes focuses disproportionately on access to education as the biggest barrier to learning for Black students in particular there are many structural inequalities within education that prevent success and contribute to dropout.
- 6. Racism faced by Black students is often further compounded by sexism, homophobia, transphobia and disability discrimination.
- 7. The vestiges of colonialism are deeply embedded within the Western education system.
- 8. University buildings named/built in honour of colonialists and racists openly celebrate those who built their success on the back of Black suffering.
- 9. That the curriculum constantly celebrates white thinkers and the 'Western' experience, reproducing whiteness and white domination.
- 10. With a Tory majority government we can expect: more vicious cuts to education and public services; more racist scapegoating to blame immigrants and Black communities for the bankers' crisis.
- 11. There is an alternative to tuition fees, cuts to education and a lifetime of debt: free education.
- 12. The scrapping EMA has had a hugely detrimental impact, hitting Black students hardest.

Conference Further Believes

- 1. The fight for free education should be for universal free education in HE and FE, for Home and International students, and for all ages.
- 2. We don't just need to be able to access further and higher education, we need to decolonise it.
- 3. We need to fight for a free and liberated education system which doesn't just reproduce whiteness nor inferiorises Blackness" inferior.
- 4. The 'Rhodes Must Fall' campaign at UCT, South Africa aims to address both the physical remnants of colonialism on their campus, and the deeply rooted psychological aspects.
- 5. Colonialism and white supremacy were (and are) maintained through eliminating non-'Western' modes of thinking, learning and understanding the world.
- 6. Dead white men do not hold the key to Black liberation neither Foucault nor Marx.
- 7. Black-led critical inquiry of the education system is key to dismantling racism embedded within it.
- 8. The Why is my curriculum white? campaign has begun to meaningfully start this conversation within university spaces.
- 9. This process should not be confined to formal institutions of education.
- 10. The Student Assembly Against Austerity has been at the heart of organising a new movement for free education, with a 10,000 national demo in November. It's also built the resistance to racist scapegoating by mobilizing hundreds of students to join the 15,000 strong 'Stand Up To Racism' demonstration on UN Anti-Racism Day.
- 11. On Saturday 20 June the People's Assembly Against Austerity is organising national demonstration to kick start the resistance to the Tory government.

Conference Resolves

- 1. To continue to fight for free, democratic, liberated education, and against cuts and privatisation.
- 2. To support a range of actions in support of free education, including demonstrations and direct action.
- 3. To demand the return of EMA and the implementation of living grants to support students through education.
- 4. To re-affirm our commitment to cross-liberation; working with all NUS Liberation Campaigns and the International Students' Campaign to challenge inequality in education.
- 5. To continue our work with the APPG on Race and Community, Runnymede Trust, HEFCE and the Office for Fair Access, and to make progress on the recommendations in the Race For Equality Report.
- 6. To encourage institutions to adopt the TUC's Charter for Racial Justice in Education.

- 7. To support Why is my curriculum White?-style campaigns on campuses.
- 8. To link global campaigns like UCT: Rhodes Must Fall with UK-based initiatives to decolonise education.
- 9. To work with Black History Studies, Black History Walks and other organisations to support community-based education initiatives.
- 10. To support the People's Assembly Against Austerity national demonstration on Saturday 20 June and mobilise Black students to join the anti-racist and student blocs.
- 11. To continue to work with the Student Assembly Against Austerity to campaign for free education, to bring back EMA and against the huge austerity offensive and racist scapegoating

BSC_EE_15403: Offer Asylum Seekers a Chance to Study

Conference Believes:

- 1. Asylum Seekers and migrants with discretionary leave to remain have major difficulties with their fee status.
- 2. Although the government leaves HE and FE institutions to classify these students' fee status, vast majority of institutions consider them to be international students.

Conference Further Believes:

- 1. These students can be awaiting their full refugee status for years and during this time would not be able to go to college or university.
- 2. Even if the university considers these students to be home students, they will still not be able to get a loan or a grant from the government.

Conference Resolves:

- 1. NUS Black Students' Campaign will work with NUS International Students' Campaign in changing government policy in this area.
- 2. NUS BSC to work with NUS ISC to get universities to reduce fees for these students and offer loans and grants in the meantime.
- 3. NUS BSC strongly condemns any policy which discriminates against the most vulnerable in society, especially Asylum Seekers who have left their lives behind in search for a better future.

BSC_EE_15404: Only We Can Write and Teach Our Own History

Conference Believes:

- 1. Nationally, while 17% of pupils in the UK are from black, Asian and ethnic minority backgrounds, only about 7% of teachers are.
- 2. In 2014, 17.2% of black African applicants, and 28.7% of black Caribbean applicants were taken on by teacher training institutions across all subjects, against 46.7% of white applicants.
- 3. According to the annual statistical report by the Graduate Teacher Training Registry (GTTR) published last week, 30 Black Caribbean, African or mixed-race people applied to read for a postgraduate certificate in education in history in 2013. One mixed-race applicant was accepted as were up to two Black Caribbean or Black African applicants at best a 10% success rate. This stands in stark contrast to the 506 white people accepted on to history teacher training courses from the 1,937 who applied a 26% success rate.

- 1. Black Students need to address the matter why there are so few history students and teachers of African and Caribbean heritage.
- 2. There is a need for more Black History Students and Teachers.
- 3. There is a need to address the White Euro-Centric curriculum which often neglects Black History.

Conference Resolves To:

- 1. Fight for a transparent Grad schemes for Black Students.
- 2. Work with Institutions or organization which encourages Black teachers, such as Black Academics.
- 3. Work with History Matters to encourage more Black History Teachers.

Policy Passed at Black Students Conference 2016

Anti-Racism

Motion 303: Anti Racism Anti Facism

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Racism is on the rise, with Black people facing institutional and structural barriers and well as a resurgence of far-right activity in society.
- 2. The government and media manipulate perceptions of issues such as austerity, the refugee crisis and global political violence, to legitimise racism against Black people.
- 3. These are reflected on-the-ground in society: the refugee crisis has reinvigorated anti-migrant fascists, emboldened by the xenophobic rhetoric of the government against refugees and migrants.
 - a. Political violence and the emergence of groups such as ISIL are being used to justify oppressive and Islamophobic counter-terrorism laws targeting primarily Muslim and Black communities, such as PREVENT.
 - b. Far-right mobilisations are on the increase, with newer groups such as PEGIDA and Britain First emerging in the vacuum left as the EDL and BNP fade away.
 - c. Campuses are being targeted by groups such as National Action, spraypainting racist/Islamophobic and anti-semitic messages.
- 4. The Black Students' Campaign has always worked to combat all forms of racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism
- 5. The ongoing refugee crisis means suffering for thousands.
- 6. The refugee crisis is being used to sow racism, fear and division across Europe.
- 7. The United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights recently said current rhetoric surrounding the crisis is worryingly comparable to language used in the 1930s, when countries refused to take in Jewish people fleeing Hitler's Nazi Germany.
- 8. The European Union referendum has been toxic as politicians and the media relentlessly spread fear about immigration.
- 9. 25th March is marked the International Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade.
- 10. Britain played an active role in the Transatlantic Slave Trade for centuries, the ill-gotten gains of which formed the basis of much of its wealth and industrial advances today.
- 11. Britain's role including those of our institutions is often underplayed and omitted from the curriculum; the discussion here more often centres the role of the now-USA.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. One way in which the government upholds its racist practices is through divide and conquer between Black communities.
- 2. Far-right groups are responding in like with a more 'respectable' face of racism.
 - a. For example groups like PEGIDA claim to be opposed to the "Islamification of Britain", masking the fact that far-right/fascist groups ultimately pose a threat to all Black people, as well as Muslims, Jewish people, LGBT+ communities and more.
- 3. It is for this reason that unity between Black communities, and solidarity with other oppressed groups, is crucial.
- 4. The tactic of 'No Platform' was designed by communities to stop the growth of fascist groups in society by denying them the 'oxygen' which they need to flourish and normalise their views.
- 5. We continue to support No Platform for fascists on this basis.
- Stand Up To Racism has successfully united anti-racist, Black communities, trade unionists, and promigrant campaigners with large demonstrations in Glasgow, Cardiff and London marking UN Anti-Racism Day.

- 7. Stand Up To Racism's rallying call of 'Refugees Welcome Here No to racism, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism' has secured national media coverage, put pressure on decision-makers, provided engaging materials and training and provided solidarity and aid to refugees.
- 8. There is strong undercurrent of apologism and historical amnesia regarding Britain's role in the Slave Trade and colonialism.
- 9. This forced amnesia and revisionism has allowed for a resurgent nostalgia for British imperialism a recent YouGov poll found 44% of respondents as being 'proud' of Britain's history of colonialism, with 41% believing it to be a 'good thing'.
- 10. This is despite British imperialism and the Transatlantic Slave Trade representing among the greatest if not the greatest atrocities in human history.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. Work with Movement Against Xenophobia and International Students' Campaign to challenge antimigrant rhetoric and hatemongering.
- 2. Reaffirm our support for No Platform for fascists.
- 3. Work with the Antifascist Network to combat fascist activity on campuses and in communities
- 4. Continue to campaign for PREVENT to be scrapped.
- 5. To affiliate and work with the Stand Up To Racism campaign as chaired by Diane Abbott MP to challenge racism in all forms in politics, the media and across society.
- 6. To encourage SUs to commemorate International Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade.
- 7. To campaign for greater acknowledgement of the roles of British universities in the Slave Trade and colonialism.

Motion 301: Faith in Unity!

Black Students Conference Believes

- 1. That building strong interfaith links between religious groups, and educating the wider community on different cultures and religions, will help to bring about long-term change, both on and off campus, which in turn will bring about a and more tolerant society which seeks to understand differences.
- 2. Surrounding the period of Holocaust Memorial Day 2015, campuses were targeted with Nazi imagery and graffiti which was daubed on campus walls, including at Birmingham.
- 3. Students unions, academic institutions and university security have a duty of care and protection to all their members' safety, both on and off campus.
- 4. The NUS has a long-standing precedent for standing up to fascist and racist groups that seek to divide students on racial, religious or ethnic lines.
- 5. That it has a responsibility to ensure that university campuses remain an open, tolerant and safe space for all ethnic and religious minorities and groups.
- 6. Colleges/universities often fail to confront racism within their campuses.
- 7. For the sake of maintaining a façade of multicultural harmony, institutions will more often downplay incidents than risk highlighting issues facing Black students.
- 8. Recent incidents include a Black woman at Warwick who found racist slurs written on a banana in her accommodation, a Muslim woman at KCL having her niqab pulled off and recurrent incidents at Birmingham of Islamophobic graffiti on campus.
- 9. In all the above cases, Black students criticised their universities' slow or non-existent responses.
- 10. Hate crimes often go underreported, including hate crimes at colleges/universities.
- 11. Students may be unwilling to report incidents to their institutions out of a lack of faith that anything positive will come of it.
- 12. They may be unwilling to report incidents to the police due to mistrust of the police which is particularly understandable in the case of Black students.

- 13. Lack of an evidence base allows for institutions to downplay the prevalence of hate crimes, including racist and Islamophobic, LGBT-phobic, ableist, sexist, anti-Semitic or other crimes, on their campuses and leave them unwilling to implement institutional change.
- 14. Social media platforms have allowed for a new way of interacting with students, especially those identified as 'hard-to-reach'.
- 15. Social media has become an integral part of campaigning for student elections.
- 16. It has, unfortunately, also become a way for people to bully and slander people behind the cloak of anonymity sometimes to the point of harassment, incitement and criminality.
- 17. This has been exemplified by a number of cases in the student movement recently, with candidates, NUS liberation officers and liberation conferences being targeted by online abuse en masse.

Black Students Conference Further Believes

- 1. In many cases, Black students' only recourse to any type of accountability is online.
- 2. For Black students afforded very little social capital within their institutions, naming-and-shaming becomes the currency with which they can force their colleges into action.
- 3. In many cases students campaigning against incidents are muzzled/brushed off by their institutions Birmingham's BME students' association was threatened with disciplinary action by their SU for campaigning against a student active in far-right politics on their campus, and criticised by their university.
- 4. Black students affected by hate crimes may instead seek support from Black student groups or officers within their SUs, which may remain underequipped to deal with these effectively.
- 5. Students should be able to access independent/3rd party, non-police mechanisms for reporting incidents of hate crime.
- 6. Hate crime reporting mechanisms should be available 24/7.
- 7. SUs are often well-positioned to serve this function.
- 8. These attacks can be especially pronounced for people from liberation backgrounds.
- 9. Black, Women, LGBT+, Disabled students and students of faith have found themselves inundated with abuse on social media to the point of deterring these students from running in elections.
- 10. Social media abuse is actively preventing the most marginalised students from engaging with/seeking representation within their unions.
- 11. The 'It Stops Here' campaign, initiated at KCL, aims to 'combat the rising phenomenon of online harassment'.

Black Students Conference Resolves

- 1. To celebrate and value the diversity of our members and create an environment where the cultural, religious and non-religious or similar philosophical beliefs of all are respected.
- 2. To create a positive environment through education and awareness raising of cultures and religion or similar philosophical beliefs and will actively promote tolerance within its community.
- 3. To actively challenge racism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and fascism.
- 4. To reaffirm NUS' No Platform for Fascists policy and continue to campaign for its full implementation within NUS and all Students' Unions.
- 5. Reaffirm our support for NUS organising an annual Anti-Racism/Anti-Fascism Conference and providing adequate resources for this work.
- 6. Continue to work with unions and anti-racist organisations to mark UN Anti-Racism Day.
- 7. To investigate the idea of students' unions acting as hate crime reporting centres
- 8. To ensure NUS remains committed to fighting hate crime on campuses and to work with liberation and faith groups to achieve this.
- 9. To ensure that long term, sustainable mechanisms exist to ensure that no student is targeted or harassed for their religious, national or racial identity.
- 10. Provide educational training on antisemitism for all committee members and interested members

- 11. To lobby institutions to provide additional support to students during times of higher tension to ensure that campus remains a fair, open and safe space to all students irrespective their religious, national, ethnic or racial identity.
- 12. To work with universities and students unions to improve hate crime reporting procedures
- 13. Campaign alongside students pushing their institutions towards more robust anti-racist practice.
- 14. Support students facing threats/victimisation for exposing incidents of racism, or poor responses from their institutions.
- 15. Support SUs in developing hate crime reporting mechanisms or becoming reporting centres.
- 16. Encourage HE unions to work with under-resourced local FE Unions in implementing cross-campus reporting mechanisms.
- 17. To work with the It Stops Here initiative to combat cyber abuse
- 18. Work with the other liberation campaigns on developing best practice on addressing online harassment around student elections.

Motion 302: Gendered Islamophobia

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Islamophobia is on the rise throughout society.
- 2. This represents a resurgence of one of the oldest forms of racism in the modern day.
- 3. Muslim women face the sharpest manifestations of overt Islamophobia, particularly visibly Muslim women, facing verbal and physical assaults, and constant attacks on their choice of clothing.
- 4. The state's relationship with Muslim women is also fraught and inconsistent.
- 5. They are often used as a vehicle for furthering the government's counter-terrorism agenda based off orientalist assumptions about Muslim women being inherently more "moderate" within their communities.
- 6. Meanwhile, they also find themselves the object of that same agenda, accused of fostering a climate of "extremism" within their family homes.
- 7. In the eyes of the state, Muslim women are somehow both 'traditionally submissive' and 'the enemy within'.
- 8. This has further damaged the trust between the state and Muslim women.
- 9. Ofsted's Chief Inspector has supported restrictions on the niqab/veil for Muslim women at schools and encouraged the down-marking of schools by inspectors in certain circumstances where they permit the niqab.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Islamophobia is legitimised through the categorisation of the 'good Muslim' i.e. the passive, unquestioning subject vs the 'bad Muslim' those seeking to challenge state oppression.
- 2. These dichotomies have emerged within NUS and the student movement this year, with individuals picking and choosing which Muslim organisations are 'acceptable' to work with.
- 3. In tackling Islamophobia, we should never seek to legitimise racist binaries, or adopt the language of the oppressor.
- 4. Incidents of Islamophobia often go un-reported, due to (understandable) mistrust between Muslim communities and the police/state.
- 5. Research into the experiences of Muslim women in education, and the Islamophobia they face, is similarly lacking.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. Work with the Women's Campaign to highlight and campaign against the gendered aspects of Islamophobia.
- 2. Work with the Women's Campaign, FOSIS and relevant Muslim student groups to conduct research into the experiences of Muslim women in education.

3. Campaign against any measures seeking to restrict Muslim women students' right to choose the niqab, hijab, or other articles expressing their faith.

Motion 304: Prisons are Obsolete! Abolish Them Now!

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. In 2015, there were 238 deaths in prison in England & Wales.
- 2. This year already, 27 deaths have occurred, with six of those yet to be categorised.
- 3. Since 1990, an estimated 3,807 people have died in prison.
- 4. There is yet to be a single conviction for any of these deaths.
- 5. Prison does not work; 59% of prisoners re-offend in less than12 months.
- 6. 53% of women in prison are survivors of sexual violence.
- 7. Trans* people are regularly incarcerated in the wrong gendered prison and/or denied hormone therapy.
- 8. Approximately 90% of prisoners report experiencing some kind of mental illness.
- 9. African and Caribbean people in prison represent 12.1% of the overall prison population despite making up only 2.9% of the population in society.
- 10. Those racialised as other than white (i.e. Black people) are only 10% of the UK's population, whilst making up one quarter of all people in prison.
- 11. The UK government has recently unveiled plans for the opening of a new supermax prison in Wrexham, North Wales costing £250 million.
- 12. The government pushes for greater criminalisation of drugs and substances, even in the face of opposition of sector experts and evidence, criminalising swathes of people.
- 13. The forthcoming implementation of the Psychoactive Substances Act described as 'unforceable' underlines this trend.
- 14. Research by Release and LSE show that drugs policing dominates stop and search practice, and thus fuels the active overpolicing and harassment of Black people.
- 15. Over 50% of stop and searches are for drugs, with Black people vastly more likely to be stopped & searched and/or arrested for drugs, be prosecuted and receive harsher sentences for drugs possessions than white people even for low level drug offences.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Suicide rates in prisons raise huge concerns about level and quality of mental health care in prisons.
- 2. Prisons are not hospitals or a "place of care", and those who would be sectioned under the Mental Health Act should be transferred to NHS care at a secure hospital.
- 3. Prisons are sexist and racist.
- 4. The NUS Women's Campaign and the NUS LGBT+ Campaign have policy to campaign on the issue of prison abolition, and the Black Students Campaign must join them
- 5. An increase in the prison population is driven by systematic discrimination and the pursuit of profit, not a rise in crime levels.
- 6. In comparison to their more rights-based/education-based approaches towards potentially risky activities like alcohol consumption or sexual activity, colleges/universities often operate rigid, 'zero tolerance' approaches to drug possession/consumption by students.
- 7. Zero tolerance approaches, criminalisation and/or prohibition do nothing to reduce harmful effects of drug use, or decrease use they simply drive the practice underground.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To call for the abolition of the prison-industrial complex.
- 2. To campaign on the issue of prison abolition using a variety of tactics including, but not limited to, direct action.
- 3. To support initiatives to write letters to prisoners, including political prisoners.
- 4. To produce a campaign briefs for Black students on this issue.

- 5. Work with Release and Students for Sensible Drug Policy in campaigning for evidence-based drug policy.
- 6. Push for education-based approaches around drug consumption among students and for decriminalisation/against zero tolerance approaches by colleges/universities.

Motion 305: Expanding the Campaign Against Prevent in FE

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. The Black Students' Campaign has long campaigned against the racist PREVENT agenda and the newly-statutory Prevent duty.
- 2. The 'Students Not Suspects' campaign that has developed over the past year has emerged as a leading force in the campaign against PREVENT.
- 3. It has also helped normalise and embolden opposition to PREVENT, and over 30 SUs now have policy against PREVENT and the duty.
- 4. The NUT voted unanimously to call for the Prevent duty to be withdrawn from teaching at their annual conference this year.
- 5. The UN's Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association has described responses from civil society as being 'overwhelmingly negative' towards PREVENT and likened it to 'Big Brother'.
- 6. That pursuing PREVENT-related initiatives like the RICU propaganda programme show how disconnected the government is from public perception of their policies.
- 7. PREVENT's reputation has been irreparably damaged, and whilst the government looks to redouble its plans on the strategy, PREVENT is closer to collapse than ever before.
- 8. A new Extremism Bill is due to be unveiled during the Queen's Speech on 18th May.
- 9. The Bill is set to include provisions making it easier to shut down premises 'used to promote hatred', to ban organisations that 'draw people into extremism' as well as expanding Ofcom's regulatory powers over broadcasting content.
- 10. It will build on recent literature like the Counter-terrorism and Security Act to further scale back civil liberties under the guise of countering so-called 'extremism'

Black Students Conference Further Believes

- 1. The campaign against the Prevent duty has remained primarily focused on PREVENT in HE.
- 2. FE colleges and unions face a unique set of problems in tackling the Prevent duty and require extra support.
- 3. This include the fact that FE SUs, unlike HE SUs, often do not exist as legally independent or autonomous bodies from their parent institutions.
- 4. Thus the Prevent duty may apply to FE SUs, whereas HE SUs are not bound to it.
- 5. Other FE-specific issues include imposing 'fundamental British values' as part of the pedagogical practice in FE.
- 6. The target of the Extremism Bill has been identified as primarily 'extremist' Muslims.
- 7. The Bill is intended to be central to David Cameron's 'legacy programme' of legislation.
- 8. Despite the mass and growing resistance to policy like PREVENT, the government seems intent on pushing ahead with more anti-democratic, Islamophobic legislation unabated.
- 9. This highlights a government on the brink of losing control and no longer able to manage dissent democratically.
- 10. The Extremism Bill must be opposed.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

1. To expand the campaign against PREVENT, whether through NUS or under the Students not Suspects banner, to cover PREVENT in FE.

- 2. To work with the VPFE to lobby for the decoupling of British values from teaching provision in FE.
- 3. Working with the NUT and relevant organisations towards this.
- 4. Conduct research to map out the effects of the Prevent duty in FE.
- 5. Develop advice tailored for FE unions in legally enacting policy in opposition to PREVENT.
- 6. To campaign against the progression of the Extremism Bill into law.
- 7. To support unions in lobbying against the progression of the Extremism Bill.
- 8. To co-ordinate creative direction action to stop the progression of the Extremism Bill

Motion 306: Housing is a Black Problem

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. That social housing is being directly attacked and destroyed by government-endorsed corporations and private companies.
- 2. That poor Black communities are disproportionately affected by gentrification and the decline of social housing, and are overrepresented in homelessness statistics.
- 3. That Black people in affected areas, particularly in London, are disempowered and disenfranchised by these attacks on their homes and businesses, negatively affecting community self-image and autonomy.
- 4. That vulnerable members of our communities, including LGBTQIA+ folk, single mothers, survivors, disabled people, and recovering addicts are among the most affected by the annihilation of social housing.
- 5. That gentrification is a contributing cause to the aggressive over-policing of these newly "regenerated" areas.
- 6. That evictions are on the rise due to these issues, shipping whole families out of cities and destroying Black communities.¹
- 7. That we will have no communities to defend, should they all be priced out of and evicted from our cities.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

1. Black Students deserve the right to good, safe, affordable, and clean housing

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To more publically endorse, support and encourage attendance of events and workshops held by radical housing groups: including (but not limited to) Architects For Social Housing, Squatters and Homeless Autonomy, Kill The Housing Bill, Radical Housing Network, Housing Action Southwark and Lambeth, etc.
- 2. To include these issues more visibly in our campaigning and dialogue including in the Black Student Handbook.
- 3. To include information on tenants' rights and housing resources in the Black Student Handbook.
- 4. To encourage and attend demonstrations against evictions and the Housing Bill.
- 5. To join radical forces that are lobbying to save social housing, create more homes, and fighting against cuts to housing benefit.

¹ http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/over-50000-families-shipped-out-of-london-in-the-past-three-years-due-to-welfare-cuts-and-soaring-10213854.html

Black Representation

Motion 404: Defending Black Representation

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Black people continue to be under-represented in positions of influence across many areas of politics, society, education, media and judiciary.
- 2. As a result of years of Black student organisation, and the Black Students' Campaign prioritising Black representation, we have seen huge strides in the number of Black students running and getting elected as officers in their Unions and across NUS' structures.
- 3. Increased Black representation should be celebrated, but we recognise that Black students continue to face racism and many institutional barriers once in office.
- 4. Data collected from Black students' experience running in elections this year also shows how Black students face prejudices and attacks whilst running for positions, due to their race.
- 5. Further to this, Black self-organisation continues to be seen as threatening.
- 6. Whilst Black students are beginning to become better represented within officer positions, autonomous Black student officer positions and Black students' associations positions elected by and for Black students remain crucial.
- 7. The Elections of Marvin Rees and Sadiq Khan as mayors of Bristol and London respectively represents a major step forward for Black representation and the fight against racism.
- 8. On Marvin Rees' election, to use the words of Operation Black Vote's Simon Woolley: 'today the descendant of enslaved Africans is running a former slave city'.
- 9. The appalling Islamophobic smears against Sadiq Khan were powerfully and overwhelmingly rejected by Londoners.
- 10. Nadiya Hussain was rightly crowned winner of the Great British Bake-Off 2015 the most-watched TV show
- 11. Premier League champions Leicester City's Riyad Mahrez was recently awarded the Professional Footballers' Association 'Player of the Year'.
- 12. The election of current NUS Black Students' Officer Malia Bouattia is historic as the first Black Muslim woman NUS President.
- 13. Malia Bouattia's election as the first Black woman President of NUS is an historic achievement, taking the advance of Black representation in the student movement to a new level following a decade and a half of the NUS Black Students' Campaign blazing a trail.
- 14. A reactionary blacklash against this historic achievement has seen some Students' Unions hold referendums to disaffiliate from NUS.
- 15. Defeating these disaffiliation campaigns is important. A strong and united NUS is in the best interests of all students: we need a national union campaigning to stop the government's attacks on education as well as securing discounts and deals which save students millions of pounds every year.
- 16. Defending NUS from disaffiliation campaigns is about defending Black representation in the student movement. The NUS BSC has transformed our SUs and NUS with massive strides in increasing representation and putting the issues that matter to Black students on the agenda through events, campaigns and training.
- 17. At this year's NUS National Conference, the Black Students' Officer Malia was elected NUS National President 2016/17.
- 18. The backlash at the media and student level to her election was unprecedented and vitriolic, with abuse directed towards her often highly racialized, gendered and Islamophobic.
- 19. Media outlets reiterated the smear that she supported or failed to condemn ISIS, or that she was an 'extremist', playing off her faith.
- 20. Past NUS officers many of them with decidedly poor records on anti-racism and support for the Black Students' Campaign used the opportunity to deride her and write off NUS as 'being lost'.

- 1. We are correct to assert the principle of Black students electing our own representatives throughout the student movement.
- 2. The Black Sabbs Network has continued to be run by the Black Students' Officer this year, bringing together Black student officers to discuss and address shared issues and build locally.
- 3. In recent years, as the representation of Black students (and Black issues) within NUS has increased, it has been dogged by accusations of being 'unrepresentative' or 'out of touch' with so-called 'normal students'.
- 4. This underlines the fact that sections of the student movement have a problem with Black people in positions of power.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To challenge any attempts to erode guaranteed Black student representation or autonomy, whether within individual student unions or NUS.
- 2. To conduct focus group sessions and take feedback from Black Sabbs Network meetings to produce resources for Black sabbatical officers.
- 3. To bring together and develop Black student leaders and activists through the Black Students' Winter Conference, the Black Sabbs Network and BSC Regional meetings.
- 4. To continue to support the campaigns for a Black students' officer and Black Students' Association in every union, and for increased levels of institutional support for these positions
- 5. To congratulate Marvin Rees, Sadiq Khan, Nadiya Hussain, Riyad Mahrez and Malia Bouattia on their successes as a positive step forward for Black representation
- 6. To lead the #YesToNUS campaign in order to defend the whole student movement and to defend the advance of Black students
- 7. Condemn the backlash and attacks on the Black Students' Officer Malia.
- 8. Commend the Black Students' Officer on her election as NUS President.

Motion 401: Disabled Black Students: Understanding the intersect and making activist accessible

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. The NUS Disabled Students' campaign aims to remove the stigma from all disabilities, challenge perceptions and encourage all members of our society to take a positive attitude towards understanding the nature of disability and overcoming prejudices.
- 2. The Disabled Students Campaign and Black Students' Campaign are allied in our efforts for liberation and many students define into both campaigns.
- 3. It has been questioned as to what it means to be young, Black and disabled.
- 4. Scope's Report, 'Overlooked Communities, Overdue Changes' highlights important matters2;
 - a. Although there is no specific reference to students, there are at least one million black and minority ethnic (BME) disabled people in the UK.
 - b. Stigma appears to be a particularly problematic area for black disabled people, especially those with mental health needs.
 - c. There are many misunderstandings of disability which can lead to negative attitudes toward disabled people.
 - d. The stigma of being disabled can lead to people being 'invisible'.
 - e. It can affect the consistency of support being provided, i.e. care was only provided when it was absolutely necessary

 $^{^2\} http://www.scope.org.uk/Scope/media/Images/Publication\%20Directory/Over-looked-communities-over-due-change.pdf?ext=.pdf$

- f. Stigma can also affect those associated with disabled people, as well as disabled people themselves.
- g. Social isolation is widespread for black disabled people
- h. Women's experience of being disabled can be compounded by expectations about domestic labour
- i. Immediate family is the primary resource for managing the impact of long-term ill-health.
- j. Over-protection can be a problem for young black disabled people. The desire to live independently can be a source of conflict between young people and their relatives, who may be reluctant to allow young people space to explore their own identities.
- k. Family can also be a primary source of stigma.

- 1. That understanding the experiences of intersectional disabled people is vital to the strength and legitimacy of our Campaigns
- 2. We need to look more into how culture, heritage, race and ethnicity influence the lives of disabled people.

Black Students Conference Resolves to:

- 1. To raise awareness in the student movement of the experiences and particular barriers faced by black disabled people.
- 2. To ensure greater advocacy and visibility by seeking out black disabled speakers for Black Students Campaign events
- 3. To reach out to black disabled students so they are able to meet people with similar experiences and also talk about their personal experiences.
- 4. To conduct research with specific reference to the problems faced by black disabled students.
- 5. To work with the Disabled Students Campaign (who passed a similar policy to this at the 2016 Conference) to ensure this is a collaborative endeavour.

Motion 402: Black Students Campaign Loves SU's

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. It is a great achievement that this year, the first Black Female Muslim President was elected to the presidency of the NUS.
- 2. There has been an increase of elected black student officers in students' unions across the country.
- 3. This increase of elected Black student officers is a positive step, but Unions often remain underprepared to deal with the issues affecting Black students on the whole Black students in positions of influence remain an alien concept to many Unions.
- 4. There is a risk of increased Black representation being used to mask institutional inequality within Unions, or Black student officers being 'tokenised' to advertise a diversity that doesn't otherwise exist in practice.
- 5. The level of Black full-time sabbatical officers is at a record high.
- 6. This is a testament to Black student self-organisation, but these increases are not shared across the board some unions remain stubbornly white.
- 7. Whilst waiting for these unions to 'catch up' it should be acknowledged that unions themselves are not necessarily the best or foremost representative of Black students in education.
- 8. East Asians constitute a large demographic of students in the UK, but have been under-represented within the Black Students' Campaign's structures.
- 9. East Asian students constitute a high proportion of international students Chinese international students represented the single largest non-EU sending country for international students in HE.

10. The issues facing many East Asian students thus fall at the intersection of being non-white and international in the UK, and hence the more complex relationship with the student movement as a result.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Black students should be a vibrant part of the fabric of student life within students' unions but they fail to do so because they can find it hard to identify with the activities of some students' unions.
- 2. Students' unions could do more to create a welcoming environment for black students, many of whom are international.
- 3. Some of the challenges that affect black students in education are unique and students' unions can struggle to ensure that these students get the representation that they need.
- 4. Increased Black representation is not a panacea, nor does this automatically equate to better antiracist practices at an institutional level.
- 5. Many Black student officers report deep-seated racism and discrimination once elected, with many driven to the point of resigning.
- 6. The NUS Race Matters report found similar issues shared by Black SU staff as by Black students.
- 7. The Black Students Campaign should seek to engage with unions in creating a better culture for Black students to thrive, ensuring they better provide for the needs of Black students, as well as improving and working towards better representation for Black students within them.
- 8. This, however, should not come at the expense of grassroots Black students groups and societies who take upon themselves the task of campaigning for Black students and their needs on campus.
- 9. They often do so with volunteers sacrificing their time, energy (and degrees) for Black students.
- 10. In engaging with unions and Black student officers, BSC should not neglect the importance of Black grassroots student groups.
- 11. SUs are political bodies, they are at their best when they serve the needs of liberation groups and minoritised groups of students.
- 12. For them to be effective at this, their institutional practices often need to be wholly reformed.
- 13. Black representation should not be an 'add on', or a way of treating Black students as a new customer niche it should be woven in at every level of the Union, from democratic structures to strategic oversight.
- 14. East Asian students should be more proactively engaged with by the Black Students' Campaign, alongside the International Students' Campaign, to better understand and address the specific issues feeding into their lack of representation thus far.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To work more closely with students' unions to tackle the barriers that may affect participation of black students with their activities, and to encourage students' Unions to take a strategic approach to their engagement with BME students.
- 2. Develop a helpful guide on how to increase participation of black students in the election process within students' unions.
- 3. To work with students' unions to increase diversity in what they do, from the type of music they play to the products they buy and sell through NUS Services, ensuring black students feel a greater connection with their students' union.
- 4. To work with SUs to implement the recommendations of Race Matters.
- 5. Work with Network for Black and Asian Professionals to provide resources and training for Black staff in SUs.
- 6. Provide forums for Black SU officers and staff to build solidarity and share practice.
- 7. Support Black student groups in conducting campaigns for representation on their campuses.
- 8. Facilitate non-sabb participation in BSC networks and events.

- 9. To develop resources on 'liberating Unions', and deepening Black representation across their structures.
- 10. Work to develop a self-evaluation tool for SUs to assess their level of Black representation.

11. To work with the International Students' Campaign and relevant representative organisations to ensure representation, and encourage participation, of East Asian students within the Black Students' Campaign's structures.

Motion 403: #BlackGradsMatter

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Black graduates in Britain are much less likely to be employed than their white peers six months after graduation.
- 2. Black students will experience an increasing "pay gap" in comparison to their white peers as they become more qualified. Staff from all ethnic minority backgrounds faced a 10% pay deficit at degree level, rising to 17% for those with A-levels alone.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. A lack of cultural capital, direction and guidance contributes to the deficit in employment for Black students after their studies.
- 2. Institutional racism and pre-existing prejudices create significant inequalities that limit black students' ability to gain employment.
- 3. The government has not done enough to tackle the institutional racism that leads to a gap in pay for black students and the limiting of their opportunities.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To develop workshops for black students to guide them through the employment cycle from application to navigating the possibilities of promotion.
- 2. To work with the government to ensure that they honour their commitment to introduce name blind job applications across the board.
- 3. To commission further research into the causes of a deficit in graduate employment of BAME groups.
- 4. To lobby the department of business innovation and skills, and companies within the UK, to close the "pay gap" that exists between black workers and non-black workers.

Motion 405: The Fair Way

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Democracy is at the heart of the NUS governance structure.
- 2. Those that attend black students conference determine policy and the strategic direction of the campaign through democratic process.
- 3. Currently students can register for black students conference as individuals without going through any democratic process within their union.
- 4. Black students who attend the conference can often do so feeling unsupported financially, practically and emotionally.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Students who attend black students conference should feel supported by their students union practically, financially and where possible emotionally.
- 2. Individual representation without accountability can lead to a detachment to the issues affecting the greatest number within our communities on our campuses.
- 3. That the decisions made at black students conference should reflect the broad views of the communities from which delegates who attend have come from.
- 4. Delegates should be accountable to the students whose lives the black students campaign is aiming to improve.

5. Not enough students on campuses are aware of the black students campaign.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To develop materials and resources that member institutions within the NUS can use to promote the black students conference on their campuses.
- 2. To develop a "How to" guide on supporting black students who want to go to conference.
- 3. To develop an advisory pack guiding delegates on how they can communicate their experience of black students conference back to black students on their campuses.
- 4. To promote the election of delegates attending black students conference, ensuring that all of the above can be further embedded into the culture and process of member organisations.

Motion 406: More Representation for Black Women & Black Trans People on Panel Events

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. That there is a chronic lack of Black trans speakers at events on Black issues.
- 2. That panel discussions on Black issues are still overwhelmingly male.
- 3. That providing speaking platforms for marginalised Black people is empowering for those underrepresented within our communities, and for those listening.
- 4. That demographics of speakers at events determines to prioritisation of certain subjects matters, and the attendance and participation of large parts of our communities who usually feel underrepresented.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To reserve more than half of each panel organised by our campaign for women and trans speakers.
- 2. To avoid tokenising specific individuals for event after event to represent an entire community.
- 3. To reach out beyond reps within NUS to represent Black women and Black trans people.
- 4. To build healthy working relationships with trans, LGBQIA+ and women's groups and organisations that allows a good exchange of event organising labour and speaking opportunities.

Motion 407: Black is not a cis monolith

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. That Black trans students are largely underrepresented as a focused demographic in NUS spaces, events, campaigns, and research.
- 2. That the movement for a Trans* Rep at NUS is the beginning of necessary steps to represent, support, and empower Black trans students and people affiliated with NUS.
- 3. That a range of barriers and obstacles disproportionately affect Black trans students' access to higher education, housing, employment, health services, and involvement in their communities.
- 4. That Black trans students need to be a priority for the NUS Black Students Campaign.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To review the NUS Black Students' Campaign's engagement with the Black trans community in terms of:
 - a. Representation at events hosted by the campaign (speakers, performers, etc.), including which panels trans guests are invited to, which subject matter they are asked to cover, whether there is a specific budget to pay them for their labour.
 - b. The ways in which events and information are publicised and their inclusivity.
 - c. How the campaign's spaces are managed in terms of the safety of Black trans attendees (including support from committee members, complaints, caucus management, consensual shared room delegation, and the assurance of non gendered facilities).

- d. Conscious outreach to Black trans students, activists, and performers.
- e. How trans members of the committee are worked with, supported, and accommodated.
- 2. To reserve a larger section of the Black Students Handbook for trans contributors.
- 3. To initiate and encourage open dialogue on pronouns, gender diversity and identity, cis-patriarchy, why non gendered facilities are necessary, etc., in order to demystify the existence of Black trans people in our spaces and communities.
- 4. To work with the other liberation campaigns to specify Black trans students in research, forms, and surveys.
- 5. To actively include Black trans femme folk within Black women's events and speaking opportunities.

Equality in Education

Motion 204: Equality in Education

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Black students face unique issues with racism, attainment and retention within education, which arise due to a number of institutional failings on the part of their colleges/universities.
- 2. Following years of campaigning by the Black Students' Campaign, the Black attainment gap has been adopted as a national priority within NUS and across the sector.
- 3. Whilst institutional support is much needed in tackling the issue of attainment, practical initiatives should remain led by Black students, not end up as bureaucratic exercises to improve the PR of institutions.
- 4. The NUS Black Students' Officer and VP Higher Education have co-hosted the 'Liberate My Degree' tour this year.
- 5. Issues relating to attainment do not begin at HE, and are very much present in FE as well as earlier studies.
- 6. The majority of Black students are in FE.
- 7. On top of massive cuts to FE, the upcoming FE Area Reviews are set to make unprecedented changes to the sector and provision for FE.
- 8. The Tory government attacks on education are hitting Black students hard: £9,000 fees and the scrapping EMA and grants. Institutions with the highest number of Black students, such as London Met University, have faced the brunt of education cuts.
- 9. The 'Area Reviews' will see the biggest cuts to FE ever and the marketization agenda in HE is intensifying.
- 10. Austerity is leading to higher Black unemployment, more child poverty and attacks on all our public services including the NHS.
- 11. UCU (Universities & Colleges Union) has called for a two-day national strike on the 25-26th May at universities following a dispute over payment offers by the Universities and Colleges Employers' Association (UCEA).
- 12. UCU members have also prepared for further action over summer if an acceptable payment offer has not been agreed, which includes boycotting the marking of students' work.
- 13. Since 2009, HE staff in the sector have faced a 14.5% pay cut in real terms wages.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The NUS' Race for Equality report into Black students' experiences in education has been seminal in guiding work in the sector.
- 2. The report highlighted a number of key issues affecting Black students in education, from an alienating educational culture to poor institutional practices.

- 3. The Black Students' Campaign has always campaigned for Free Education and stood against the marketization of education.
- 4. The impending Higher Education White Paper also threatens to completely submit HE to marketisation.
- 5. NUS National Conference voted overwhelmingly for NUS to launch a new campaign called 'Save Our Futures Stop Cutting Education'. This includes organising a massive national demonstration this autumn, activist training days plus national days and weeks of action.
- 6. The issues that students face in education are closely entwined with the issues facing educators.
- 7. Solidarity with our educators is key towards advancing our demands for a free, liberated and oppression-free education system.
- 8. Black academics face compounding issues of increased casualization and limited career progression within HE, which exacerbate issues of poor pay and job instability.
- 9. Attempts by university management to 'divide and conquer' students and educators should be wholly opposed.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To commission new research into Black students' experience in education to build on the findings of Race for Equality, with focus on the specific issues facing Black women, Black LGBT+ and Black disabled students.
- 2. To work with the NUS Postgraduate Campaign in identifying the issues facing Black PhD and other Postgraduate students.
- 3. To continue the Liberate My Degree campaign, and expand it into Further Education.
- 4. To continue prioritising Black-led and bottom-up initiatives to tackling the attainment gap.
- 5. To remain an active partner in the Race Equality Charter Mark by the Equality Challenge Unit.
- 6. For the NUS BSC to be at the forefront of campaigning against cuts to education.
- 7. To mobilize students to take part in the 'Save Our Futures –Stop Cutting Education' campaign, including building NUS' national demonstration for free education this autumn.
- 8. To work with the People's Assembly Against Austerity, the Student Assembly Against Austerity and education unions to fight the cuts.
- 9. To support UCU in their dispute with UCEA to secure fair pay.
- 10. To support any action taken over industrial summer by UCU, and encourage Black students to join pickets.
- 11. Continue working with UCU Black Members in highlighting the intensified issues facing Black academics.

Motion 201: FE and HE Link up!

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Further Education has long been viewed by the government, media and public as the "Cinderella sector", picking up those students that the Higher Education sector "doesn't want"
- 2. Despite increasing government rhetoric about the value of Further Education and parity of esteem between the sectors, policies and proposals do not reflect this
- 3. The Association of Colleges has calculated that overall funding for colleges has decreased by 27% in real terms since 2010. Funding for 16-19 year olds fell by 14%. The Adult Skills Budget has been cut by 35% since 2009.
- 4. That the latest assault on further education is coming from the Government's 'Area Reviews' of post-16 education and training in England. At least 36 reviews across England will be completed by March 2017.
- 5. Whilst the Government's stated aim for the review is to create "larger, more efficient, more resilient providers" within further education, they will in reality see colleges merge, with fewer colleges, less staff and possibly more cuts to the further education budget.
- 6. A well-rounded, critical approach to education is crucial in producing active, conscious members of society.

- 7. For this to be possible, a wide range of teaching, assessment and curriculum formats and approaches need to be adopted education cannot be one-size-fits-all.
- 8. Issues relating to diversity, liberation and inclusivity within the curriculum apply to FE as well as HE.
- 9. Despite being a global minority, the works of white people are promoted in education as a universal standard.
- 10. The related issues for Black students arising from this, such as attainment gaps and increased likelihood of not completing their studies, thus also apply to FE as well as HE.

- 1. Higher education students have far better resourced advocacy and representation services than further education students.
- 2. Continued cuts to further education are a national scandal and undermine access to education for people of all ages and all social classes.
- 3. College mergers and narrowed curriculums are only being viewed as necessary because of Governments' successive decisions to cut public funding.
- 4. That further education and sixth-form colleges provide education for a massive range and diversity of learners, and are intrinsic parts of local communities. Small communities need local colleges to maintain their local identity.
- 5. These shortfalls have a disproportionate impact on those already disadvantaged in society, and represents an access crisis for disabled people, black students, and women.
- 6. A high proportion of FE students are Black
- 7. Liberation is just as important in FE as it is in HE
- 8. A narrow approach to learning at any level is damaging to students as well as society.
- 9. This year the VPHE alongside the Black Students' Campaign have conducted a 'Liberate My Degree' tour across universities.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To address particularly the ethnicity attainment gap as a national crisis and translate the HE campaigns on this so they are relevant
- 2. To Facilitate development action plans
- 3. To establish resource and training packages with the aim of developing a joint FE/HE Black Activist network
- 4. To ensure that Black learners' voices are heard in the process of area reviews by bringing together college student representatives in affected areas.
- 5. To provide lead officer and staff contacts for local FE & HE institutions
- 6. To actively promote and facilitate joint FE & HE campaigning against cuts, area reviews, and attacks on the further education sector.
- 7. To work with the VPFE in developing a #LiberateMyFE tour of colleges promoting a liberated education and challenging the Eurocentricity of FE education oppression

Motion 202: Free Education

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. This Campaign has long stood for free education.
- 2. Free Education is increasingly becoming recognised and adopted as a 'mainstream' demand.
- 3. That some cases for free education adopt the argument that investing in education is of economic benefit, or otherwise benefits Britain industrially.
- 4. While this may be truthful and a politically comfortable argument, building the case for free education along these lines legitimises the neoliberal education system and the marketisation of education, reducing it to a function of industry and profit.

- 5. This argument also fails to confront the hierarchy within the education system, whereby subjects, primarily STEM subjects, with better research value and increased funding streams are considered more worthy than 'soft' Arts subjects which consequently face greater risk of cuts.
- 6. Education is a social good, which enriches and benefits society in ways that cannot be quantified, and a diverse range of disciplines and subjects are needed for the long term development of society and students.

- 1. A free education needs to be free to access, liberating, democratic and accountable to the wider community at large.
- 2. An education system that is more democratic is also one that is more dynamic and which can better respond to the needs of the people.
- 3. Our aim as Black students in accessing further and higher education should be to bring the benefits back to Black communities, not creating 'ebony towers' or serving as 'gatekeepers' of knowledge.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To re-affirm our commitment to Free Education, on the basis that it is a social good that benefits society in countless ways, and that access to education is a right.
- 2. To continue building the campaign for free education alongside Black anti-cuts groups like BARAC and Black activist and community organisations.
- 3. To communicate the need for an education system that is inclusive and democratic, and which is responsive to the needs of, and broadly accountable to, the public at large.

Motion 203: Higher Education White Paper – Opposing the marketisation of our education

Black Students Conference Believes:

- The government released a Green Paper last year proposing a number of significant reforms of Higher Education.
- 2. A White Paper formally presenting these proposals is due to be released on the 18th of May.
- 3. The proposals in the Green Paper indicated moves towards the wholesale marketisation of the Higher Education sector.
- 4. Among these is:
 - a. allowing for increased tuition fees;
 - b. encouraging greater competition between universities/providers;
 - c. enabling private providers to compete as part of this market alongside established universities;
 - d. a range of new metrics for quantifying the 'value' of universities, to facilitate this market competition;
 - e. the introduction of the TEF Teaching Excellence Framework;
 - f. attacks on Student Unions' campaigning abilities

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The Marketisation of Higher Education in this way is antithetical to our vision of a free, democratic, accountable public education system.
- 2. The NSS National Student Survey is a key component of the government plans.
- 3. It has been noted that Black academics are evaluated lower in comparison to white counterparts in the NSS; metrics often mask how racism manifests in the university.
- 4. Taken alongside the Green Paper, these plans can be viewed as a way to 'sugar-coat' the damage of the proposals.
- 5. These plans ignore that under a marketised education system it is non-'elite' universities (where highest concentrations of Black students can be found) that face being edged out and/or shut down.

6. Given issues such as attainment, access to 'elite' universities is not the only pressing concern for Black students.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. Work with the VP Higher Education in stopping the HE reforms in the White Paper.
- 2. In line with NUS UK policy, encourage unions to boycott the NSS.
- 3. Work with UCU Black Members and other Black sections of academic unions to highlight the anti-racist case against the HE White Paper.

Motion 205: Bring Back the One-Year Post Study Visa for International Students

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. International students have been under constant attack by the Home Office for a number of years.
- 2. These attacks have intensified since 2012 with the revocation of the 'Highly Trusted Sponsorship' of London Metropolitan University, scrapping of the post-study work visa provision and other changes to the immigration system.
- 3. In recent months, the government has reformed the student immigration process (Tier 4 Visa structure) further through the following conditions:
 - a. International students in Further Education (FE) cannot work
 - b. Student visas for FE institutions now have a cap of 2 years,
 - c. International students in both FE and Higher Education (HE)
 - d. Dependents (that is spouses, kin, etc) cannot work in "low
 - e. HE and FE Students wanting to continue to work in the UK after while on a student visa instead of 3 cannot transfer courses/programmes throughout their study, unless facilitated through the Home Office skilled" employment studies will be deported to their home countries where they can apply for their separate, work visa there

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The government is creating a culture of fear in which international students and migrants alike feel as though they have no socio-political value
- 2. That while the reforms are explicitly and structurally oppressive, they create real anxiety and strain on the welfare of international students
- 3. The onslaught on international students' rights in the UK is not an isolated matter and is part of a bigger picture of the anti-migrant sentiment which is growing in the UK.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. NUS should prioritize the plight of international students in its' campaigning activities.
- 2. NUS to fully support, endorse and encourage a national day of campaign on 'International Students' Day', November 17th. This would be to raise awareness regarding the treatment of international students and the wider migrant communities in the UK and to show the government that students overwhelmingly reject the government's attitude towards migration.
- 3. NUS to raise awareness and mobilise students for the action.
- 4. NUS communication team to particularly magnify this day of action by producing relevant material as well as distributing videos and other promoting material, provided by NUS.

Motion 206: Area Reviews

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. The review of post 16 education and training institutions is a set of reviews conducted in phases that cover different geographical "areas".
- 2. A similar restructuring of post 16 learning has already occurred in Scotland.
- 3. The purpose of the reviews is to move the sector towards "fewer, often large, more resilient and efficient institutions".
- 4. That this will likely result in mergers, leaving some cities with only one large college and lengthening the distance students will need to take to access learning.

- 1. That the expected mergers will result in dwindling quality of FE courses and reduced options for students.
- 2. That students from poor and marginalised communities for whom FE has long been a lifeline will be shut out from accessing education as a result of the Area Reviews. This includes Black students, Women students, mature students, student parents and those with caring responsibilities.
- 3. That this is a new tactic in the governments long going campaign to attack education in the UK, and their systematic efforts to dismantle not just FE but the education system more generally.
- 4. Though we're being told this is to reduce public expenditure, this is nothing less than an ideologically motivated and all-out assault on FE learners and access to education.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To work with the Vice President Further Education to campaign around the Area Reviews and protect FE learners, and especially Black students for many of whom FE is a lifeline.
- 2. To create a campaign brief for FE students to empower them to self-organise.
- 3. To demand no cuts in courses, reduction in quality or loss of jobs in FE.
- 4. To work with Trade Unions to support staff who will be facing job losses as a result of the Area Reviews.

International Peace and Justice

Motion 501: Defending Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. That the Black Students' Campaign has comprehensive policy supporting the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign against Israel.
- 2. That NUS UK, over two dozen SUs and numerous national trade unions also have policy supporting BDS or BDS campaigns.
- 3. Having lost the political and moral argument against BDS, defenders of Israel have taken to attacking pro-Palestine activism through the tactic of 'lawfare' SUs with BDS policy have been lobbied/intimidated by pro-Israel groups falsely claiming such activity as being ultra vires, or otherwise illegal.
- 4. Taking lead from this, the government announced moves this year to 'outlaw' procurement boycotts by local councils, explicitly targeting BDS-related boycotts.
- 5. The 'Policy Procurement Note' issued in February fell short of any such ban, but nonetheless represents a case of the government seeking to stifle and clampdown on pro-Palestine activism.

Black Students Conference Further Believes

1. The vote to support BDS by the NUS NEC in 2014, led by the Black Students' Campaign, represented a breakthrough for an organisation with a long history of Israeli apologism.

- 2. Examples include then-NUS President Wes Streeting attending an anti-BDS working group in Jerusalem in 2009³, future Israeli-Prime Minister Shimon Peres addressing a fringe session at NUS National Conference 2003, former President Jim Murphy serving as Chair of Labour Friends of Israel⁴ and former President Lorna Fitzsimmons serving as CEO of BICOM, the Britain Israel Communications & Research Centre⁵.
- 3. We are proudly antiracist, anti-colonial, anti-Zionist and thus support the Palestinian struggle for their liberation.
- 4. That BDS is a Palestinian-led campaign, and that as with any liberation struggle, we should take lead in our Palestine activism from the Palestinian people.

Black Students Conference Resolves

- 1. To reaffirm our support for BDS.
- 2. To campaign against any future proposals to limit the ability of political bodies, including SUs, to conduct campaigns in line with BDS.
- 3. To develop guidance and advice on the legality of BDS campaigns and policy run by SUs, to disseminate to activists and unions.

Motion 502: International Peace and Justice

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Black people form the vast majority of humanity
- 2. Many Black people in the UK today, as 1st, 2nd or latter generation migrants, still hold close ties with their ancestral homes in the Global South.
- 3. As such, the issues affecting nations in the Global South the legacies of colonialism and neocolonialism, the sharpest manifestations of climate change, warfare and the ills of capitalist exploitation – are pertinent issues for Black students in the UK in particular.
- 4. As Black students it is our responsibility to be conscious of the role that the UK plays, and has played, in many of the issues befalling nations in the Global South.
- 5. Our campaigning must remain conscious of this too: we cannot divorce our activism from those nations where our families originate and reside.
- 6. There has been a recent move within NUS and the wider student movement towards privileging the concerns of the so-called "average student".
- 7. This "average student" appears to be concerned with a very narrow range of issues, often removed from international issues or politics.
- 8. Arms technology companies often actively recruit students for graduate roles.
- 9. These companies are often also engaged, directly or indirectly, in the arms trade providing weapons and equipment used to fuel warfare in the Global South.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. To reaffirm our commitment to International Peace & Justice as a key tenet of our work.
- 2. To reject the notion that an "average student" or "average student issues" truly exist, and recognise that any such ideal is inherently racist, excluding and marginalising Black students, as well as students from other liberation backgrounds.

³ https://electronicintifada.net/content/behind-brand-israel-israels-recent-propaganda-efforts/8694

⁴ http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk politics/2078122.stm, http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/tories-and-new-labour/jim-murphy-champion-of-apartheid,

 $[\]frac{http://www.spinwatch.org/index.php/issues/politics/item/5701-even-by-new-labour-standards-murphy-has-a-grim-record}{}$

⁵ http://www.bicom.org.uk/analysis-article/3914/, https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/asa-winstanley/paul-flynn-bicom-and-nexus-between-zionism-and-anti-semitism

- 3. These companies target certain fields for recruitment such as engineering and other STEM backgrounds.
- 4. Black students are well represented in these same fields; according to ECU figures over 1/5th of UK-domiciled students study in Engineering & Technology courses, whilst UKCISA figures place international students (a high proportion of whom are Black) as comprising a 1/3rd of these courses.
- 5. There are few more sordid practices than recruiting students to work on the very technology used to attack and bombard their home nations.
- 6. Arms technology companies are often found recruiting at university careers fairs.
- 7. Students have a long tradition of campaigning against dirty alliances by their institutions with arms companies: companies at these fairs should be considered fair game.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To work with organisations representing frontline communities affected by climate change, in campaigning against it.
- 2. To continue to oppose and campaign against Western (and Western-backed) interventions in the Global South.
- 3. To campaign for fair and equal trade in the Global South, and against the privatisation and continued plunder of the natural resources in Africa and South America
- 4. To continue to support Boycott, Divestment and Sanction against Israel, and encourage local campaigns.
- 5. To continue to campaign against companies engaged in the Arms Trade that are active on campuses, alongside Campaign Against the Arms Trade and War on Want.
- 6. To pressure NUS UK to use its considerable influence towards helping achieve international peace and justice.
- 7. Develop resources including infosheets for target arms technology companies often found at careers fairs.
- 8. Encourage students to creatively disrupt and protest arms technology companies at careers fairs.
- 9. Seek to integrate direct action training into BSC training

Motion 503: A Strong, Successful Response To Deportation Cases

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. That the NUS Black Students Campaign is often overwhelmed with a wide range of solidarity duties, working closely with many different causes and providing as many resources as possible to fulfil these responsibilities.
- 2. That the workload on the committee can accumulate in times of community crises including responding quickly and adequately to emergency deportation cases, particularly those of students.
- 3. That Theresa May's attacks on students' right to remain, and the UK's xenophobic and racist immigration system, are a central issue and priority for the Black student movement to dismantle and resist.
- 4. That the case of Majid Ali is, although unforgivable and tragic, not an exception, and such cases require an immediate and full response from student activists.*
- 5. Student deportations are reaching all-time highs.
- 6. A few select cases of students facing deportation have reached the public consciousness but many, many more pass without any outcry or attention

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. The government's deportation policies are systematically racist
- 2. NUS has been pressuring the government to conduct an inquiry into its disgraceful treatment of international students, including the wrongful deportation of 48,000 students following an examcheating scandal at one college.

- 3. Our ideals of a free and liberated education system must extend to international students, otherwise they ring hollow.
- 4. The brutality of the migrant detention system betrays the racism at the heart of the state; detention centres must be shut down.
- 5. That a more proactive strategy for opposing student deportations is desperately needed.

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To implement formal training for committee members to respond adequately to deportation crises and detainment cases.
- 2. For training to take the form of a presentation, workshops, and/or pamphlets.
- 3. For this training to be funded by NUS, and led by activist organisations and/or professionals.
- 4. For the training to include a basic outline of immigration, detainment and deportation law, tried and tested law firms, media channels to work with, how to stop a chartered flight, and a basic plan for members to work together on creating and supporting campaigns of this kind.
- 5. For this information to be shared with other BSOs at regional and national NUS Black conferences.
- 6. Develop a network and strategy, coordinated between the Black Students' Campaign, International Students' Campaign, NUS and the NUS Nations and relevant migrant advocacy groups for proactively responding to student deportations, including establishing regional anti-deportation networks.
- 7. Continue to work with Movement for Justice to campaign for the shutting of Yarlswood and the migrant detention system.
- 8. Support NUS' calls for an inquiry into the government's treatment of international students.

Motion 504: Joining the fight against HIV in Black Communities

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. That there is strong statistical evidence that Black, Asian and Latin American communities in the UK have disproportionately high rates of HIV 45% of people nationally accessing treatment each year are of our communities.
- 2. That African people comprise 34% of the national demographic of people living with HIV, 58% of whom are diagnosed late, making treatment less- or ineffective.
- 3. That Black people of all sexualities are heavily affected.
- 4. That this issue needs to be prioritised in the Black activist movement.

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

1. Safe sex practices must be promoted

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. To make an active commitment to encourage campaigning around this issue on campuses, including access to free contraception, non-gendered testing, and free information (when, why and how to get tested etc).
- 2. To include this issue in our campaign more openly, tackling stigma.
- 3. To encourage free translated resources to be available in community centres, on campuses, and in other locations we work in.
- 4. To be more involved in and publicise national HIV prevention days, especially those that are ethnicity-specific.
- 5. To allow our connections to the LGBT+ campaign and Women's campaign help us in our collective work on this issue.

Motion 505: Stand by Survivors

Black Students Conference Believes:

- 1. Violence against women is a human rights violation and also an equality issue.
- 2. Violence against women is the most common cause of depression and mental health issues women. The effects of violence against black women are not documented enough.
- 3. Black women can suffer various forms of violence including, rape, sexual assault, FGM, acid attacks, honor-based violence and domestic violence.
- 4. Sexual assault for queer and trans women is as high as 61% compared to their heterosexual counterparts at 35%
- 5. Over 50% of trans people have experienced sexual violence at some point in their lives

Black Students Conference Further Believes:

- 1. Violence against women can affect black women on a far greater scale than non-black women.
- 2. Supporting the mental health of black students and black women students should be a priority.
- 3. The perception of the strong black women has a negative effect on the provision and accessibility of adequate support and healing for black women survivors.
- 4. Services that provide support to black people and black women are often cut first as black people and black women are seen as disposable.
- 5. Black students and black women students deserve better support
- 6. Black Women face greater stigma when accessing support services
- 7. Due to the fear of being outed if they approach their family, the courts, or the police, LGBT+ people are less likely to report their experience of sexual assault
- 8. There is currently little legislation to support LGBT+ survivors, as most legislation has heteronormative assumptions

Black Students Conference Resolves:

- 1. Provide immediate support to black student survivors.
- 2. Work with organisations across the UK to raise awareness of violence against black women and the support that is available.
- 3. To mandate the NUS UK Black Students' Officer to adopt and support the work of the NUS #standbyme campaign for survivors of rape and sexual assault, to call for the repealing of the Zellick report, to lobby universities for better reporting systems
- 4. Provide resources for SU advice and relevant university welfare staff on LGBT+ survivors including sign-posting to relevant organisations
- 5. Create a Black Women survivor support network to offer peer support to and by fellow Black women survivors, which must be LGBT+ inclusive too
- 6. Lobby against the shutting down of organisations and centres that provide services for black women survivors.
- 7. Work with organisations such as Rape Crisis, Broken Rainbow, and also Black Mental Health UK

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