



The logo for the NUS LGBT+ Conference. It features the word 'nus' in black, with the 's' inside a blue square. To the right of the square is 'lgbt+' in blue. Below this, the word 'CONFERENCE' is written in large, bold, blue capital letters. The entire logo is tilted upwards to the right.

nus **lgbt+** **CONFERENCE**

LGBT+ Conference Live Policy 2017-20

If you need this document in another
format contact NUS on 0845 5210 262
or email events@nus.org.uk





Purpose of this paper

This paper contains all the live policy for the LGBT+ Campaign as agreed by LGBT+ Students' Conference 2017, 2018 and 2019. Policy agreed in 2017 will expire at conference 2020.

Policy Lapse

Policy Lapses in 2 circumstances:

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

Policy passed at LGBT+ Conference 2017 will lapse at the end of LGBT+ Conference 2020.

What you need to do

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


If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact democracy@nus.org.uk.

Contents

Policy Passed at LGBT+ Conference 2017	6
Motion 101: Committee Resource Pack	6
Motion 102: Educate to liberate: Creating training and educational materials	6
Motion 103: What about the nations.....	7
Motion 104: We like being loud, though sometimes we need quiet	8
Motion 105: And That's What gets Results!	8
Motion 201: HIV and AIDs at University	9
Motion 202: University sports should be accessible for trans and intersex students	10
Motion 203: Online Harassment	10
Motion 204: an ACE-ceptional campaign	11
Motion 205: Violence Against Women	12
Motion 206: Health research into experiences of LGBT+ students	13
Motion 207: Intersectional Victim and Survivors Support Services.....	13
Motion 208: Sensible Drug Policy	14
Motion 301: Say No To Pinkwashing Part 2.....	15
Motion 302: Let's Stop the Hate.....	16
Motion 303: Action for United LGBT+ Movement across Europe	17
Motion 304: LGBT+ and Interfaith.....	18
Motion 305: Defend and Extend Freedom of Expression and Organisation!	19
Motion 403: Implementing Ambassador Talks.....	20

Motion 404: Ensure Campaigns Support LGBT+ Students Who Care	20
Motion 405: Polyamory People.....	21
Motion 406: Bye Bi, Welcome Bi+	22
Motion 501: Let me choose who I am	23
Motion 502: Queering the Life Sciences	24
Motion 503: Not Lost in Translation	24
Motion 504: Boycott the NSS.....	25
Motion 301: Action for trans* health	26
Motion 401: Mental Health	27
Motion 406: Body Positivity	28
Motion 304: No Transphobes in NUS LGBT	28
Motion 308: Celebrating fluidity and recognizing diversity	29
Motion 201: An Accessible Campaign.....	29
Motion 313: LGBT Students and Unemployment	30
Policy Passed at LGBT+ Students' Conference 2018.....	31
Motions 101: Ally Networks are Not the Answer	31
Motion 102: UCAS to provide additional gender options	32
Motion 103: Foucault Slept with Dudes	32
Motion 104: We're Bringing Sex Ed Back.....	33
Motion 201: Commonwealth Decriminalisation Campaign	34
Motion 202: Supporting Students Who Are Unable to Come Out.....	35
Motion 203: Supporting the Decriminalisation of Sex Work.....	36
Motion 204: Always Anti-Fascist (but especially now)	37
Motion 205: Pride (is a protest) Reacts Only.....	38
Motion 206: Transmisogyny and the Gender Recognition Act	39
Motion 207: Bringing an end to conversion therapy in the UK	40
Motion 208: Homelessness in the LGBTI+ Community	41
Motion 209: Fighting for Marriage Equality in Northern Ireland	42
Motion 210: Defending Women-Loving-Women Spaces.....	42
Motion 211: Bi-Erasure – continuing invisibility in our campaign	43
Motion 301: Keeping the T in LGBT+	43
Motion 302: Liberating Nations Liberation	44
Motion 303: Hate definitely has no place on campuses	45
Motion 304: Supporting the NUS-USI LGBT Campaign	46
Motion 305: Reinforcing and protecting our autonomy	47
Motion 306: Activist Training Guide	47
Motion 307: Back to the Future (and by future, I mean grassroots).....	48
Motion 308: FEgotten	49
Motion 309: Linking FE & HE groups.....	49

Motion 310: You should join a trade union	50
Motion 401: Disability Students in LGBT+	51
Motion 402: Tackling the Mental Health Crisis in Northern Ireland	51
Motion 403: Trans Reproductive Rights Now!.....	52
Motion 404: Mutual Aid > Self Care	53
Motion 405: Exploiting the Mental Health Crisis.....	54
Motion 406: QTIPOC Mental Health - Action Now.....	54
Motion 407: LGBTI+ Body Positivity	55
Motion 408: Know Ya Rights So We Can Fights	56
Motion 501: Political Blackness Is Defunct.....	57
Policy Lapse	59
Motion 405: Ensuring LGBT*+ support of non-binary students*	59
Motion 407: "Even the largest avalanche is triggered by small things."	60
Motion 210: Say No to Pinkwashing	61
Motion 209: Government healthcare cuts	62
Motion 208: End the whitewashing of the Stonewall Riots	63
Motion 101: Decolonise.....	65
Motion 201: Queers deserve spaces to make poor life choices too	67
Motion 202: Bash Back	67
Motion 203: Solidarity with the marginalised people of Brazil.....	69
Motion 301: Embedding intersex liberation into our campaign	70
Motion 401: Putting housing back on the agenda	71
Motion 402: Stand Up for Trans Healthcare	71
Motion 501: QTIPOC Subcommittee	74
Motion 101: A full time paid NUS Trans Officer and an autonomous NUS Trans Liberation Campaign ..	75
Motion 102: FE and HE academic system name & title change	76
Motion 103: Trans and Non-Binary Awareness in the Classroom	77
Motion 104: Encourage the addition of a Gender Identity Clinic in Wales.....	77
Motion 107: Add gender-neutral toilet and changing room facilities to all FE and HE institutions	78
Motion 110: Introduce a trans-inclusive sports policy to all HE and FE institutions.....	79
Motion 111: Supporting SU Officers and activists opposing transphobia	80
Motion 112: Pronouns Introduction Policy	81
Motion 201: Estrangement should be high on the agenda	82
Motion 202: LGBT+ survivor support	83
Motion 203: International Students and NUS LGBT+ campaign	85
Motion 205: Housing for All	85
Motion 206: Mental Health	87
Motion 210: A is for Ace not Ally	89
Motion 304: Love and Gender have no borders!	89



Motion 306: To campaign for PrEP to be made available on the NHS for free	91
Motion 309: Abolish the Prison-Industrial Complex.....	92
Motion 311: We're here, we're queer but we've nowhere to go	93
Motion 312: Make Pride a protest!.....	94
Motion 401: A trans health fund in every union.....	95
Motion 403: Building a more accessible conference	95
Motion 405: Supporting LGBT+ Activists	96
Motion 407: LGBT+ Officers for all	97
Motion 408: Defending Safe(r) spaces and No Platforming	98
No Women in Men's Prisons.....	99
Keep Wednesday Afternoons Free (from Cissexism)!	100
A trans+ inclusive feminism	100



Policy Passed at LGBT+ Conference 2017

Strong and Active Unions

Motion 101: Committee Resource Pack

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. There is a lack of resources for societies and campaigns to draw upon for inspiration for weekly meetings and on-campus campaigns.
2. Clubs can struggle to find new ways to engage their members and the wider campus population.
3. Committee members are often trying to balance their studies, extra-curricular activities and personal commitments which means they may not have time to make new resources for campaigns and meetings.
4. The current online campaigning toolkits (<http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/winning-for-students/lgbt/campaigning-toolkits>) are limited and often not known about.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. If a resource was made with a pool of ideas ranging from discussions, socials, and events, committees will feel more supported and more able to make a difference on campus.
2. Pooling ideas is a useful way to increase productivity.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. That the national committee will create a resource pack for committees to use.
2. The resource pack will include ideas for weekly meetings including but not limited to: formal meetings, social meetings, and discussions; as well as ideas and resources for external campaigns.
3. The resource pack will be an online resource that can be easily accessed on the website and advertised to all clubs.

Motion 102: Educate to liberate: Creating training and educational materials

LGBT+ Conference believes


1. Current live policy for the LGBT+ and Trans Campaigns references 'training' over 60 times throughout the policy document¹².
2. Many pieces of live policy along with the NUS report 'Education Beyond the Straight and Narrow' recognise the importance of education and training on LGBT+ issues for spreading awareness and preventing ignorance³.
3. That currently sex and relationship education within the mandatory education system does not include compulsory LGBT-inclusive sex and relationship education⁴.

¹ www.nusconnect.org.uk/winning-for-students/lgbt

² www.nusconnect.org.uk/resources/lgbt-students-campaign-live-policy-2014-17

³ www.nus.org.uk/Global/lgbt-research.pdf

⁴ www.pinknews.co.uk/2017/01/11/tories-vote-to-block-compulsory-lgbt-inclusive-sex-education-but-promise-reform/

- 
4. Currently NUS does not have a set of coherent, unified educational and training resources that are readily available to students and institutions.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That the 'Campaign toolkits' and 'Research' arms of the LGBT+ campaign provide a good framework on which to build such training and educational resources.
2. That any educational and training resources should be accessible and adaptable enough to be utilised in a number of different situations, from FE to HE, and from training and informing elected officers and students in general to educating workers in academic institutions.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. For the NUS to establish a working group to develop a set of training and education materials in relation to LGBT-inclusive sex and relationship education, gender and sexual Identity, trans issues, and LGBT+ issues and their intersection with other liberation issues.
2. For these materials to be used within the NUS' Officer Development Programme.
3. For the NUS to make these materials readily available so they can be used freely by students, institutions and educators.

Motion 103: What about the nations


LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Nations refers to the politically autonomous counterparts of NUS UK, including: NUS Wales, NUS Scotland, and NUS-USI (Northern Ireland)
2. Each nation has an equivalent LGBT+ campaign with at least one LGBT+ Officer, but all are part-time, unpaid positions
3. Each nations LGBT+ officer sits on the national NUS LGBT+ committee

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Although each nations LGBT+ campaign differs in its budget , none are large enough to carry out the intentions of the campaign when also having to pay for:
 - a. Travel
 - b. Accommodation
 - c. The conference costs
2. Currently all LGBT+ committee meetings take place in London , which is exceedingly difficult for nations officers to make due to distance, accessibility, academia and any other associated barriers
3. Nations committees are comparatively smaller than national committee , meaning the amount the committee and officer/s can logistically accomplish is less, due to financial issues, delegation, and available resources

LGBT+ Conference resolves

- 
1. To ensure the translation of all UK LGBT+ Campaign resources so that they can be used in the nations
 2. To mandate elected NUS National LGBT+ officers to ensure committee meetings vary in location
 3. To assist nations officers where possible, including
 - a. Helping out with motions/campaigns they are unable to complete alone
 - b. If not able to physically help, financially supporting the different nations' campaign
 - c. Ensuring the national committee support nations campaigning, either through social media or presence at events
 - d. Ensuring nations needs are not comprised for campaigning issues around location and distance
 - e. That the elected national officers visit and help out at each nation at least once per year

Motion 104: We like being loud, though sometimes we need quiet

LGBT+ Conference believes

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Many LGBT+ students do not feel safe on campus, including because campuses can be too loud.
2. Having quiet spaces on campus is conducive to student welfare.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. In all guidance on how to make spaces more accessible for LGBT+ students, to recommend the creation and maintenance of accessible and clearly signposted quiet spaces.
2. At all events at which NUS LGBT+ shall be present, to argue for the creation and maintenance of accessible and clearly signposted quiet spaces.
3. For all nighttime socials facilitated by NUS LGBT+ to have a quiet option.

Motion 105: And That's What gets Results!

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That Currently Universities and Colleges are required to monitor the recruitment, retention and Attainment (RRA) of students.
2. This data is generally required to be broken down by Age, Race, Sex, Disability and Ethnicity.
3. That most institutions make no effort to monitor the RRA of LGBT+ students because they are not required to.
4. That many LGBT+ students face significant barriers to accessing and succeeding in education.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That it is always easier to argue a position when clear statistics exist to support it.
2. That it is vital that institutions become places where LGBT+ people have as much chance of accessing and succeeding in them as their Heterosexual, Cisgender counterparts.
3. That many institutions will not realise a problem exists until they do begin to monitor it.



LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To encourage institutions to begin to independently monitor the RRA of LGBT+ students through the inclusion of voluntary questions at enrolment and include the data in their Equality and Diversity plans.
2. For the Officers to work with organisations such as the Equality Challenge Unit, the Association of Colleges and Universities UK to encourage the monitoring of the RRA of LGBT+ students as best practice.
3. That the campaign shall encourage NUS UK and other organisations to recognise institutions that work to improve the RRA of LGBT+ Students.

Welfare and Student Rights

Motion 201: HIV and AIDs at University

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That HIV and AIDs is an on-going battle in the LGBT+ community
2. That attending University or College with HIV and/or AIDs is a difficult experience
3. That starting as an apprentice in a new work/study environment with HIV and/or Aids is a difficult experience
4. That there is a significant amount of stigma that surrounds HIV and AIDs, even in university and “safe spaces”
5. That more can be done to combat this stigma, and enough is not being done
6. That stigma associated with HIV and AIDs has links to mental health
7. That mental health is a growing concern in the LGBT+ community, with Stonewall finding that 22% of gay and bisexual men are currently experiencing moderate to severe levels of depression, and half of gay men saying they have felt at times life to not be worth living.
8. That people suffering from HIV and AIDs are twice as likely to have depression
9. That HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders (HAND) are the range of mental health and neurocognitive disorders that affect people with HIV and AIDS. There are three main types of HAND – including HIV-associated Dementia. Whilst rare, these disorders are a concern for our community.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That a reduction in stigma whilst studying – and in the wider society – would go to great lengths to reduce these mental health issues and greatly improve the quality of life of HIV-positive students and students with AIDS
2. That institutions are not currently doing enough to combat stigma, and offer support that does not adequately tackle the mental health implications that a life with HIV and AIDs entails
3. That this lack of support needs to be tackled



LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. That the NUS LGBT+ Campaign should conduct a thorough investigation into the ways that this stigma can be tackled, and how mental health associated with HIV and AIDs can better be dealt with at universities, colleges and other places of learning
2. That the NUS LGBT+ Campaign should report its finding to conference, and publish a guide to send to universities, colleges and other places of learning on what they can do to help improve the lives and experiences of their students who may be affected by HIV and AIDs.

Motion 202: University sports should be accessible for trans and intersex students

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. that trans and intersex students should be able to train and compete in whichever sports team best fits their gender identity;
2. that external associations, which some university sports clubs choose to affiliate with, should revise their policies to work towards complete inclusion for trans and intersex students; and
3. that trans and intersex students should not be asked to disclose their legal gender or personal medical information to participate in university sport, including details regarding hormone replacement therapy. These demands act as barriers and can make sport inaccessible for trans students who choose not to medically transition and can alienate and prevent those who are medically transitioning from partaking in sport. furthermore, intersex students can feel unwelcome in gendered sports teams altogether.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. that the policies produced by BUCS, the FA, and the RFU regarding trans and intersex athletes are not suitable for higher education, due to their outdated language and exclusionary demands for medical information and gender certificates from students⁵;

Motion 203: Online Harassment


LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Social media is a significant part of our lives, and is used every day by a significant proportion of students.
2. Because of the extensive use of social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter, students are more at risk of suffering from online harassment.
3. Twitter in particular has become a platform for those who want to harass individuals online.

⁵ See "Transgender Policy": <http://www.bucs.org.uk/page.asp?section=18783§ionTitle=BUCS+Policies>

See "The FA Policy on Trans People in Football": <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/policies/equality/lgbt-football>

See "RFU Transgender and Transsexual Policy": <http://www.englandrugby.com/about-the-rfu/rfu-inclusion-programmes/gender/>

- 
4. In 2013, research showed that one in twenty lesbian, gay and bisexual people said they have been the target of homophobic abuse or behaviour online in the last year, including seven per cent of those aged 18-24.
 5. About 2,000 crimes related to online abuse are being reported to the police in London alone each year, according to figures released in 2013.
 6. Research in the United States found that 40% of all internet users have experienced harassment online, but only one in five victims chose to report the perpetrator to the website or online service.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Online harassment and hate crimes are under-researched in the UK because it is difficult to monitor and record the vast-swathes of online abuse that exists.
2. Because of the emergence of social media in recent years, abusive individuals may have become emboldened because of the potential anonymous nature of Twitter, Facebook and other social media sites.
3. Students' Unions and Associations have a duty of care and protection to all their members' safety both on and off campus, including on social media.
4. As with all forms of harassment and hate crimes, there is a problem of under-reporting. It is possible that this problem is pronounced online.
5. Online harassment has been seen to have a severely negative impact on individuals' mental health and wellbeing, and in the case of students, negatively impacting their studies.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To provide recommendations for Students' Unions and Associations to tackle online harassment.
2. To lobby the government to implement legislation on online harassment and cyberbullying.
3. To work with the other liberation campaigns to produce a campaign to tackle online harassment that signposts the number of different ways to report it.

Motion 204: an ACE-ceptional campaign


LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Ace refers to those identifying on the asexual and aromantic spectrum. This includes but is not limited to: asexual; demisexual; gray-asexual; aromantic; demiromantic; and gray-aromantic.
2. At least 1% of the population identifies as asexual⁶
3. Ace-identifying individuals often feel excluded from LGBT+ spaces due to lack of education of LGBT+ individuals believing that ace individuals are not included in the LGBT+.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. A motion unanimously was passed through NUS Wales LGBT+ Conference in April 2016 to create an ace-inclusive campaign and thus NUS UK LGBT+ Conference should follow suit.

⁶ www.independent.co.uk/life-style/love-sex/asexuality-when-life-isnt-all-about-sex-10371135

- 
2. Ace Awareness exists to address the issue of invisibility of ace individuals, but it is not enough
 3. Many ace individuals are subjected to both discreet and indiscreet acephobia, often based on the validity of their sexual and/or romantic orientation.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. Mandate the LGBT+ committee to ensure resources and campaigns are available to unions for use during Ace Awareness Week
2. Create an ace-inclusive NUS UK LGBT+ campaign that includes
 - a. Definitions and fluidity of identity
 - b. Myth busting of stereotypes aimed at ace-individuals
 - c. Encouragement to be an advocate of ace folk
 - d. Creation of an ace-inclusivity toolkit
3. Encourage the implementation of this campaign across all affiliated unions
4. Support unions to encourage LGBT+ spaces to include ace-identifying individuals
5. Encourage all NUS campaigns passed through liberation and national conferences to be ace-inclusive, specifically:
 - a. Including ace-identities when discussing LGBT+ issues
 - b. Reflecting on how sex and relationships differ for ace individuals, particularly in reference to sex positivity focused work
 - c. Discussing how ace-individuals struggle in drinking events
 - d. When stating intersections of identities, ensure ace-identities are covered

Motion 205: Violence Against Women

Content Warning: Rape, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. A US Centre for Disease Control (CDC) report from 2013 found that 46.1% of bisexual women have been forcibly raped, in comparison to 14.7% of straight women.
2. One in two transgender people are sexually abused or assaulted at some point in their lives.
3. In 2008, Stonewall found that one in four lesbian and bisexual women have experienced domestic violence in a relationship.
4. 49.3% of bi women experience severe physical intimate violence.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That while research has been carried out in the United States around the violence lesbian, bisexual and trans women face, little research has been done surrounding this in the UK.
2. Bisexual women have the lowest rates of support after disclosing an incident with many counselling services being ill-equipped to deal with bisexual women survivors.



LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To commission research into the violence which lesbian, bisexual and trans women face.
2. To campaign against the cuts to LGBT+ women's services.
3. To work with organizations attempting to create LGBT+ specific refuges across the UK.
4. To provide students with a list of LGBT+ specialist counselling services from across the UK.

Motion 206: Health research into experiences of LGBT+ students

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Research by Stonewall, GMFA and GIRES establishes that LGBT+ people are more likely to experience ill health. This research also establishes that QTIPOC, bi+ people and disabled LGBT+ people are more likely than the overall LGBT+ population to experience health difficulties.
2. Research also establishes that LGBT+ people often have poor experiences with healthcare providers.
3. No specific research has yet been completed in relation to the health of LGBT+ students in the UK.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Health should be understood holistically and sympathetically. Mental health, sexual health and long-standing health problems are all examples of health which should be taken seriously.
2. NUS research into the experiences of students is nation-leading, and plays an important role in shaping government, university and SU policy.
3. LGBT+ students' experiences are not static. As people 'come out' and/or transition, their health experiences change and as such limited snapshots as attained by individual surveys are limited in what they tell us about LGBT+ experiences.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. That the NUS LGBT+ Officers and Committee in conjunction with relevant staff will design and carry out a medium term longitudinal study into the health (as defined above) experiences of LGBT+ students, the results of which shall be published at the conference at which this policy shall lapse.
2. Updates on this research shall be communicated to the membership at least twice a year until publication, including at least one NUS LGBT+ Conference and one NUS LGBT+ Committee meeting.

Motion 207: Intersectional Victim and Survivors Support Services

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That many LGBT+ people will be the victims of crime whether related to their being LGBT+ or not.
2. That many LGBT+ people are not just LGBT+ but also belong to other marginalised groups.
3. That many services set up to support victims and survivors of crime and abuse either fail to consider these intersections or have no understanding of how to deal with a service user who is a member of multiple marginalised groups and some may even be deliberately exclusionary (Domestic Violence services excluding trans Women for example).



LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That all victims and survivors of crime and abuse have the right to support services that respect the whole of their identity.
2. That a lack of understanding of one part of a persons identity may lead to a great deal of harm and significantly hamper their ability to work with that service as well as being detrimental to their recovery.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To work with other Liberation campaigns to encourage victim and survivor support services to develop their commitment to recognising the intersectionality of the people they support.
2. To provide guidance for students and officers seeking to make victim and survivor support services in their institutions and areas more understanding of LGBT+ issues
3. To celebrate victim and survivor support services that make a commitment to supporting LGBT+ people.

Motion 208: Sensible Drug Policy


LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Many students will use or try recreational drugs during their time in education⁷.
2. LGBT+ people are more likely to engage in substance abuse (which includes currently legal drugs such as alcohol as well as illegal drugs) than their straight/cis peers.
3. Use of (illegal) recreational drugs is higher among LGBT+ people than their straight/cis peers
4. Unsafe use of drugs or use of contaminated drugs can be deadly, even with infrequent or first-time use.
5. Practices such as chemsex mean that many gay and bi men are more exposed to more risky sexual practices, health and social problems associated with the use of drugs such as GHB and crystal meth, as well as incarcerat
6. ion and losing employment as a result of said drug use. Black people and other people of colour are more likely than white people to be arrested and prosecuted for the possession and usage of currently illegal drugs.
7. The Royal Society for Public Health and the Faculty of Public Health have both argue for the decriminalisation of illegal drugs.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Students aren't always aware of the risk that drugs carry with them.
2. Fear of criminalisation, expulsion from a course, stigma, or simply lack of access to testing might put people off getting their drugs tested for safety. It can also cause people to feel like they aren't able to

⁷ www.nhs.uk/Livewell/studenthealth/Pages/Smoking,alcoholanddrugs



ask for help if drug use intertwines with mental health, either because their drug use negatively affects mental health, or vice versa if drug use is caused by mental health issues.

3. The criminalised nature of many recreational drugs currently is destructive and ultimately does more to fill our prisons with non-violent offenders (especially people of colour) than actually promote the wellbeing of drug-users.
4. Health problems that come with drug use aren't solved by more stigma or criminalisation.
5. Policy should always prioritise the safety of the students. Rather than making a moral standpoint about whether or not students should take drugs, it is more effective to keep in mind that students take drugs
6. While the safety of legal highs is often overestimated, there has also been a great push by the media to demonise those who make use of legal highs.
7. Drug use isn't always recreational, and can be used to deal with (among others) chronic illness and/or pain and/or trauma.
8. The War on Drugs in the UK (and in many other countries) has failed to overall increase the health and wellbeing those at risk of substance abuse.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To argue that drug usage and substance dependence should be treated as (if the substances harm the individual) a health and social care problem.
2. Support unions in the adoption of sensible drug policies that prioritise the safety of the students, rather than the fearmongering around drug use. This includes prioritising policy that might lead to an increase of safe drug use over policy that drives drug use down but makes it unsafe.
3. For relevant communication on drug policy to argue for the decriminalisation of the possession and usage of all currently illegal drugs.
4. Support unions in lobbying their institutions to include a drug-testing service, where students and the wider community can get their drugs tested confidentially, freely, and without fear of persecution.
5. Support unions in lobbying their institution to include information on safe drug use in their Freshers week. This should include, but is not limited to: the effects that different drugs have, the danger of mixing different drugs, the dangers of mixing drugs and alcohol, where to get help if someone suspect they (or a friend) might be addicted, and how to know if the drugs one buys are safe.
6. To advocate that LGBT+ student organisations on campus run regular non-alcoholic social events, including in the evening, as well as welfare support for those engaged in substance abuse.
7. To work with Students for Sensible Drug Policy.
8. Make unions aware of the importance of sensible drug policies to liberation groups.

Society and Citizenship

Motion 301: Say No To Pinkwashing Part 2

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That the motion 'Say No To Pinkwashing' is part of live policy.

- 
2. That this motion mainly details the situation of Israel's pinkwashing to attract LGBT+ tourism and investment, and doesn't account for the rest of the world.
 3. That over the course of the past few years, racist far-right demagogues have been on the rise in the US and Europe.
 4. That these demagogues use the imagery of the LGBT+ community to increase their appeal, while simultaneously attacking minority ethnic and/or religious groups, People of Colour, migrants and refugees or anyone perceived as such.
 5. That this further erases the existence of LGBT+ People of Colour, LGBT+ Muslims, LGBT+ Jews, LGBT+ refugees and LGBT+ migrants (and those who are perceived as such, and/or fall into multiple of the aforementioned categories).
 6. That if this increase in xenophobia and racism wasn't enough, this pinkwashing doesn't even always translate into legislation that helps LGBT+ people.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That while the past motion is still relevant and important, it has increasingly become clear that it is necessary to look at pinkwashing in the US and Europe as well.
2. That marginalised groups shouldn't be played out against each other.


LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To continue the work outlined in the 'Say No To Pinkwashing' motion.
2. To ask LGBT+ officers and LGBT+ societies to share the statement on pinkwashing that went live on 30 November 2016, and show solidarity with those groups affected. This shouldn't just be done in the abstract, but rather should be shown through the consistent countering of any narrative that aims to divide racial/ethnic/religious groups from LGBT+ groups.
3. To oppose the creation of any division between racial/ethnic/religious groups and LGBT+ groups by popular media or political parties.
4. To compile information about groups or organisations across Europe and the US that provide help and support for LGBT+ people who are targeted by right-wing extremism (in particular Muslim people, Jewish people, People of Colour, refugees and migrants), and make this information accessible on the NUS website.

Motion 302: Let's Stop the Hate

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. On 25th June, the day after the EU Referendum result, there were 289 incidences of hate crime in England and Wales.
2. Following the two weeks after the EU Referendum result sexual orientation related hate crimes rose by 29% and trans identity motivated hate crimes rose by 41%.
3. Not enough information and/or assistance is provided or advertised adequately at UK Higher and further Education institutions.

- 
4. Victims of hate crimes often do not report the crime as they feel ashamed or think it wasn't serious enough to report. As found in research conducted by NUS in 2010.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. No student should experience discrimination, prejudice, violence or hate crime because of who they are or what they believe.
2. All students should be able to have safe and equal access to education.
3. All students should be able to get immediate support.
4. Student unions are vital in providing that much needed support and advice to victims
5. Hate crime, both offline and online, can no longer be seen as separate. They are intrinsically linked and must be tackled together.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To encourage clear advertisement by unions of the support that is available for victims of Hate Crime.
2. To support unions that want to develop third party hate crime reporting centres.
3. To work with organisations like Galop to tackle LGBT+ specific hate crime and provide support who those who have experienced it

Motion 303: Action for United LGBT+ Movement across Europe

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. On 20th of June 2016, the UK voted to leave the European Union. There are many EU students currently in the UK who will be impacted by Britain leaving the EU, total of 124,575 students was reported in the academic year 2015/2016⁸.
2. The UK consistently ranks the highest on the ILGA rainbow index for its successful upholding and implementation of LGBT+ rights and freedoms⁹.
3. While many European countries enjoy similar positive approaches, many still remain regressive in their protection of LGBT+ (and especially Trans) rights and freedoms.
4. Many LGBT+ migrants from countries with more regressive attitudes, including EU migrants, come to Britain in order to enjoy more rights and feel safer.
5. So far the UK government has refused to guarantee the rights of EU migrants living in the UK after Brexit.


LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. The Brexit campaign and vote was a disgraceful showcase of fearmongering and misinformation that gave rise to xenophobia (both international and anti-EU) and xenophobic attacks especially against Muslims and people of color¹⁰.

⁸ institutions.ukcisa.org.uk/Info-for-universities-colleges--schools/Policy-research--statistics/Research--statistics/International-students-in-UK-HE/

⁹ ilga-europe.org/resources/rainbow-europe/2015

¹⁰ www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/post-brex-it-racist-attacks-soar-hate-crimes-reported-to-police-increase-57_uk_57714594e4b08d2c5639adcb
www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-racism-uk-post-referendum-racism-hate-crime-eu-referendum-racism-unleashed-poland-racist-a7160786.html

- 
2. The xenophobia and xenophobic attacks disproportionately affect EU/international LGBT+ people, especially those whose home countries don't enjoy the extent of rights and freedoms available in the UK.
 3. All LGBT+ students, no matter their religion, nationality, or race, deserve their rights and freedoms.
 4. It is our responsibility as a movement to uphold and fight for these rights. The UK has come a long way in its fight for LGBT+ rights and has a long way to go still, however, it is one of the most accepting countries to date. And from this position of privilege it is our responsibility to share our experiences and help, where the help is needed.
 5. The best way to denounce xenophobia and hate is by forming closer bonds among the LGBT+ community in Europe, and internationally.
 6. The best way to show support to EU LGBT+ students affected by the results of the Brexit referendum is by taking action.
 7. Free movement of people is essential to protecting the rights of LGBT+ migrants and makes it easier to organise across borders.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To work with ILGA¹¹ and IGLYO¹² and build better communication channels among activists in Europe
2. To look into a possibility of organizing a conference (in cooperation with IGLYO, and other European student movements) for student activists from different countries to meet, network, share experiences and resources.
3. To work with the International Officer to form a platform (possibly online) where student activists from the UK and Europe can share experiences and exchange resources. This platform should be accessible so that individual Student Unions (or their international alternatives) can participate.
4. To campaign for the rights of migrants in the UK to be protected in Brexit negotiations.
5. To defend freedom of movement across Europe and campaign for it to be extended beyond Europe.

Motion 304: LGBT+ and Interfaith

LGBT+ Conference believes


1. That LGBT+ people are often pushed to the outskirts or away entirely from communities of faith.
2. LGBT+ narratives have little or no presence in many mainstream communities of faith.
3. Many faith communities and offshoot organisations such as Liberal Judaism's "Twilight People" in recent years have engaged in the gathering and conservation of the identities and practices of LGBT+ people of faith.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That the LGBT+ student community has a duty to project and empower the individuals of its community who are of faith and also those who are in the process of losing or have lost their religious beliefs

¹¹ ilga.org/

¹² www.iglyo.com

- 
2. That educational environments should be centres fostering interfaith dialogue and communication.
 3. The work done by organisations such as Imaan, Keshet, Metropolitan Community Church, LGBT Humanists etc. is invaluable.
 4. That the process of losing religious beliefs and/ or community can for some people be difficult.
 5. That often discussions of LGBT+ people and religion focus on supporting people in reconciling their sexuality and religion, and do sufficiently emphasise the need to support LGBT+ people in the process of losing or who have recently lost their religious beliefs.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To facilitate at least one LGBT+ interfaith discussion event in the next academic year.
2. To approach LGBT+ faith organisations and LGBT Humanists for their potential presence at future NUS LGBT+ events.
3. To campaign for increased awareness of the identities and experience of LGBT+ students of faith.
4. To compile a written resource on LGBT+ faith communities for unions.
5. In all of the above discussions, campaigns, and resources to consider and support LGBT+ people in the process of losing or who have recently lost their religious beliefs. The LGBT+ interfaith discussion event should consider include at least one such person.

Motion 305: Defend and Extend Freedom of Expression and Organisation!

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Freedom of expression and the right to organise politically on campuses face many threats, including:
 - a. The government's Prevent policy, targeting Muslim students and political activists, and government pressure on universities to ban speakers that would be legal elsewhere.
 - b. Senior managers wanting to keep controversial discussions and political campaigning off campus for their corporate image.
 - c. Senior managers at many institutions also taking hostile and draconian action against dissents, both students and staff.
 - d. Police disproportionately harassing and assaulting black and LGBTQ+ people, and repressing progressive political activity. In some countries there are laws preventing police from entering campuses without special permission from students and staff.
 - e. Academic freedom and diversity in both teaching and research are increasingly limited as Higher Education is geared to serve the interests of big business.
 - f. Successive governments imposing antidemocratic laws restricting the activities of student unions and trade unions.
 - g. Many student unions themselves becoming bureaucratic and corporate in style, shutting down political organising and anything that smells of controversy.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To oppose the different threats to freedom of expression and of organisation discussed above.

- 
2. To combat regressive and bigoted political ideas using argument and protest.

Rules Revision

Motion 403: Implementing Ambassador Talks

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. NUS LGBT+ Conference includes caucuses for those who identify into marginalised groups within the NUS LGBT+ Campaign, as established by the Standing Orders.
2. Some student organisations outside the NUS hold ambassador talks during caucuses for students who don't identify into those groups.
3. If one isn't a member of these groups, then large passages of time can pass before one is required to engage as a delegate on certain days of the conference.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Having a variety of caucuses is a strength of the Campaign.
2. Many delegates are in positions of responsibility at their CMs, and as such having an educative programme would enrich the experiences of a variety of delegates and help make our campuses better.

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. To add to the standing orders: "22.m For all of the above caucuses, ambassador talks will be held for those that don't identify into the group."

Motion 404: Ensure Campaigns Support LGBT+ Students Who Care

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Over 375,000 young adults identify as having a caring role, a carer is: anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support.
2. Many young adult carers cannot access higher education despite 84% of carers expressing a wish to go, 30% of young adult carers believed their caring role could impede access and performance in higher education.
3. No reliable statistics exist on the exact number of students with caring responsibilities let alone the number of LGBT+ students who may also care.
4. As of September 2017 students will be asked if they identify, as a carer through UCAS- this information will then be passed onto individual universities.
5. Currently 7 universities within the UK have dedicated provisions and services for carers.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

- 
1. For universities and colleges to ensure clear measures and provisions exist within the access agreement for student's carers prior, during and at the immediate aftermath of their education. Such measures should include:
 - a. Financial support.
 - b. Targeted information including for student open days
 - c. Career, employment and further education (including access to higher education, postgraduate and PhD studies) guidance
 - d. Mandatory training on carer awareness for teaching and support staff.
 - e. Having a carer support plan.
 - f. A named representative within the institution to work towards equality and diversity issues for students with caring responsibilities.
 - g. For university and college unions to ensure clear and specific provision for supporting students with caring responsibilities through issues including: governance, representation, welfare and social engagement.
 - h. Universities, colleges and unions should engage with organisations that support carers such as Carers Trust and engage with their campaign (Going Higher) to encourage more carers to pursue and complete further and higher education¹³


LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To action the LGBT+ officers to conduct research into the number of LGBT+ student carers attending UK colleges and universities.
2. To explore what provisions already exist for students with caring responsibilities within UK colleges and universities.
3. For the NUS LGBT+ Students Campaign to network with other liberation campaigns and NUS leadership in addressing the needs of students with caring responsibilities.
4. To recognise carer's week and carer's rights day within the liberation calendar.
5. To create a toolkit with and for Students' Unions to help them create an inclusive environment for students with caring responsibilities
6. NUS to highlight issues, case studies and best practice in relation to students with caring responsibilities so that Students' Unions are more likely to organise around those issues.
7. To create a student with caring responsibilities representative to sit on NUS LGBT+ Students Campaign Committee that is to be elected by the member of the Students with Caring Responsibilities caucus.

Motion 405: Polyamory People

LGBT+ Conference believes

¹³ Carers Trust, 2015. Going Higher | Carers Trust [WWW Document]. URL <https://carers.org/going-higher>

- 
1. Polyamory (Polyamorous) describes someone who can have more than one relationship at a time, usually romantic, although not limited to that. There is no limit to the number of relationships a person can have besides what they feel comfortable with.
 2. It is important to remember that polyamory is not related to gender Identity/orientation and a person who is polyamorous can be of any orientation.
 3. Polyamory is not polygamy nor should it be considered cheating. A polyamorous relationship can be built on openness, trust, understanding and cemented rules (The same as monogamous relationships).
 4. Polyamorous relationships can come in many different forms, different people have different kinds of relationships, with varying levels of attachment and varying numbers of people, however all these relationships have had negative portrayals in the media, not unlike being Bi or Pan as greedy or non-committal.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Polyamorous people face discrimination and oppression. This discrimination can affect a person's choice to be a parent, as current laws only give two parents legal standing with a child/children. This can have repercussions on polyamorous people who wish/choose to be parents.
2. A polyamorous person faces legal barriers in relationships, as they are unable to marry more than one partner. This can lead to situations where if a partner dies they will encounter legal issues with finances, estates, children, etc.
3. When considering moving in together, a huge barrier can be landlords/other tenants. As Polyamorous couples, can be forced into hide their identity to avoid harassment, isolation from other tenants and possible eviction.
4. Because of these reasons, it is important to normalise polyamorous relationships just as a monogamous relationship are treated.
5. The abbreviation of Poly erases people of Polynesian descent and another alternative be used for Polyamory in official documentation¹⁴.


LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To create a Polyamory Rep for students who define under Polyamory and those who have multiple consensual relationships.
2. That the Polyamory Rep be voted in at conference in the Polyamory Caucus.
3. To run a Polyamory awareness campaign.
4. To not abbreviate Polyamory to Poly and erase the identities and struggles of Polynesians.
5. Ply to be used as an alternative abbreviation for Polyamory.

Motion 406: Bye Bi, Welcome Bi+

LGBT+ Conference believes

¹⁴ www.guerrillafeminism.org/poly-means-polynesian-not-polyamorous-lily-stone/

- 
1. If a person experiences any form of attraction to more than one gender identity, they fall under the Bi+ umbrella.
 2. If a person falls under the Bi+ umbrella they may attend the Bi caucus
 3. That students who fall under the Bi+ umbrella are represented by the Bi rep

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That a person does not have to experience all forms of attraction (sexual Romantic, sensual, aesthetic or platonic) towards multiple gender identities to still fall under the Bi+ umbrella
2. The standing orders define Bi as 'students who identify as bisexual, pansexual, polysexual, omnisexual, queer (and attracted to more than one gender), bi-romantic, pan-romantic, poly-romantic, and Omni-romantic.'

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To change the title of the Bi representative to Bi+ representative.
2. The Bi caucus will be renamed Bi+ caucus.
3. All documents use Bi+ instead of Bi to show our inclusion of other identities we already include under the definition shown in the standing orders.

Education

Motion 501: Let me choose who I am

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. As of September 2016, there were 371 FE institutions in the UK
2. The skills funding agency fund skills training in all FE institutions in England
3. It is currently required by the skills funding agency for further Education students to declare their legal sex

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. A student in FE/HE should be able to change their gender and or sex on official documents, without retribution as this would alleviate dysphoria
2. In doing so, it will make a large different to anyone who experiences gender dysphoria or is uncomfortable with the sex and or gender written on official documents
3. This should extend to anyone who falls into the category of Trans, including gender non-binary. The chosen defining identity will be left to the discretion of the person
4. This includes attendance records and especially qualification certificates. The process to changing this should be done without a GRC, as not all students can either afford or are not able to come out to the person who provides them with finance i.e. parents or other family member.
5. Learners under 20 cannot have completed the GRC process as this takes two years to complete and can only be started once a person is 18 years of age.
6. This causes extreme distress to LGBT+ students across the UK

- 
7. If a name can be changed on a certificate, the same should be true of the identifying gender markers

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. Create a campaign to highlight and combat the issue
2. Use the aforementioned campaign to raise awareness of the issue presented and how it affects trans students
3. To raise awareness of how this issue may have trans students feeling they do not wish to gain a further education due to dysphoria
4. To campaign for the skills funding agency to amend their policy of the disclosure of legal sex to gender identity.

Motion 502: Queering the Life Sciences

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That the life sciences (especially in the late 19th century and early 20th century) played a critical role in constructing the categories of 'homosexual', 'bisexual' et al.
2. That the life sciences are not currently as politicised as non-STEM subjects.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Many people believe (and are wrong in believing) that the life sciences are value-neutral and have little impact on the discourse surrounding the lives of LGBT+ people.
2. Often the dialogue around liberating the curriculum doesn't take into account the specific challenges that are found for life sciences students who are a part of marginalised groups and in life sciences overall.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To consult with LGBT+ students who study life sciences in creating any additional materials relating to liberating the curriculum and other related campaigns.
2. In promoting 'liberating the curriculum' campaigns to include messaging on the impact of cis and heteronormativity in life sciences curricula.

Motion 503: Not Lost in Translation

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That for many students it is mandatory for them to spend time abroad as part of their course
2. That even where it is not mandatory spending time abroad as part of a course can be an invaluable learning experience.
3. That nobody should be barred from studying in abroad or penalised for declining to travel to certain countries because they are an LGBT+ student.
4. That Institutions have a duty to keep students safe and students have a right to be treated fairly and equally both at home and abroad.



LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That there are many countries where being LGBT can be dangerous due to the status of LGBT+ people legally and/or socially.
2. That even in countries with other good LGBT+ rights and acceptance there can still be discrimination towards LGBT+ people and that these instances will be even more isolating and harmful to students without support networks or with less knowledge of how to access help.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To work with institutions so that LGBT+ students on mandatory time abroad should be able to specifically request not to be sent to countries or areas with poor LGBT+ rights records.
2. To work to ensure that LGBT+ students studying abroad are protected by the same legal rights as their non LGBT+ counterparts (especially with regards to insurance coverage, next of kin rights, access to medical treatment, etc.)
3. To work create a best practice agreement for institutions and their partners to guarantee the safety and security of LGBT+ students as far as possible including matters such as:
 - a. The right to safe and secure housing.
 - b. A clear and detailed process for LGBT+ students to raise issues prior to, during and after their time abroad.
 - c. A dedicated and trained staff liaison in the host and home institutions for LGBT+ Students studying abroad.
 - d. Providing information to LGBT+ students on LGBT+ support groups and services in their host country as well as on accessing services such as sexual health and trans health facilities.
 - e. Where students have a choice of destination: providing information on the status of LGBT+ people in the institution, the local area and the country.


Motion 504: Boycott the NSS

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. The government's May 2016 White Paper outlined extensive reforms to higher education.
2. The flagship reform, the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), will rely on data from the National Student Survey (NSS) and Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey.
3. Institutions which score highly in the TEF will be able to raise fees in line with inflation from 2017-19, followed by even higher level fees in 2019-20.
4. NUS is mandated to organise a national boycott of NSS and DLHE as part of a strategy against the reforms.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. The HE reforms fundamentally attack the idea of education as a public service.

- 
2. Education geared towards private profit of institutions and the needs of big business rather than as a public service disproportionately harms already marginalised groups such as LGBTQ+ people.
 3. There are many reasons to oppose NSS, e.g. that it systematically discriminates against BME academics.
 4. Boycotting NSS and DLHE will disrupt the introduction of TEF, giving us leverage.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To support a boycott of NSS and DLHE, including:
 - a. Refusing to promote NSS or have any pro-NSS material;
 - b. Working with UCU to discourage NSS promotion by academics and encourage academics to actively promote the sabotage instead;
 - c. Promoting the boycott through social media especially when the survey is released;
 - d. Taking part in national actions and demonstrations linked to the NSS boycott.

Policy Lapse

Motion 301: Action for trans* health


Conference believes

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

Conference further believes

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

Conference resolves

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

Motion 401: Mental Health

Conference notes

1. We have seen an increase in public discourse of mental health and a shift towards mental health sharing parity with physical health.
2. The Time to talk pledge has started the ball rolling with fighting mental health stigma.
3. Youth chances survey found that LGBT young people report significantly higher levels of mental health issues, such as self-harm, anxiety and depression. And that Trans* young people face the greatest level of discrimination and disadvantage.
4. Mental health services in the UK are chronically underfunded, accounting for 28% of NHS demand and receiving 13% of the NHS budget¹⁵.
5. Funding for mental health services was further cut by NHS England from April 2014¹⁶.

Conference believes


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

Conference resolves

1. To campaign for institutions to have a targeted mental health care for LGBT students.
2. To produce resources about LGBT mental health.

¹⁵ <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/mar/12/risks-deep-cuts-mental-health>

¹⁶ <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/mar/12/mental-health-funding-changes-lives-risk>

- 
3. To work with the disabled student's campaign to end the stigma around mental health.
 4. To oppose cuts to mental health services and to oppose cuts to NHS services as a whole.
 5. To fight for increased funding for mental health services, both within our institutions and in the wider community.

Motion 406: Body Positivity

Conference believes

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

Conference further believes

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


Conference resolves

1. To raise awareness of body image problems in the gay, bi, and/or trans community.
2. To create a series of online videos and information packs relating to body image problems.
3. To work with organisations who specialise in body image problems.

Motion 304: No Transphobes in NUS LGBT

Conference believes

1. That the NUS LGBT campaign has a duty to protect and promote the rights of all its members
2. That some cisgendered LGBT people act in ways which are actively transphobic and hurt the wellbeing of trans people
3. These actions are damaging regardless of whether they are said by LGBT or not

- 
4. Providing or sharing a platform with transphobic people hurts trans students
 5. The NUS Women's Campaign has passed policy in the past to no platform transphobic feminists
 6. This has been shown to make both the NUS Women's Campaign and events the campaign has been involved in safer for trans students

Conference resolves

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

Motion 308: Celebrating fluidity and recognizing diversity

Conference believes

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

Conference further believes

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


Conference resolves

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

Motion 201: An Accessible Campaign

Conference believes

1. As a campaign we should be maximising the amount of opportunities for students to get involved with the campaign

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

Conference resolves

1. For NUS LGBT to start hosting regional training days
2. For NUS LGBT to host local meet-ups for LGBT groups where possible

Motion 313: LGBT Students and Unemployment

Conference believes

1. That the unemployment rate is around 7.1%, which is seen to be a drop in the rate
2. However casual, part time and insecure employment is on the rise, as well as underemployment, where people are applying for and getting jobs that are under their skillset.
3. Recently the Office of National Statistics (2012) stated that the unemployment rate for young black men was around 55.9% are unemployed and according to recent statistics around 1.12 million women are unemployed, but of those employed many are struggling to fit childcare or caring responsibilities around full-time work.
4. That most HE and FE institutions do not collect data on sexual orientation or gender identity so cannot ascertain the experiences and/or routes of LGBT students.

Conference further believes

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



Conference resolves

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

Policy Passed at LGBT+ Students' Conference 2018

Zone: Education

Motions 101: Ally Networks are Not the Answer

LGBT+ Conference believes


1. Universities across the country have introduced Ally staff networks to provide 'Support' for LGBT+ staff and students and to help 'feel included and accepted, standing up for and championing LGBT+ equality'
2. Furthermore, these networks are created with an opt-in system, for staff to choose to be 'tolerant' of LGBT+ people and to choose to stand against LGBT+phobia where they see it.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. These networks are often created by people usually the LGBT+ champion who isn't LGBT+ usually with little input from LGBT+ staff and students and with big launch events
2. Staff in student's unions are also part of the schemes which consist of just simply signing a form to say you want to be an Ally with no actual training or education.
3. Networks encourage allies to 'Show visible support that you are an ally' usually by wearing a rainbow badge or lanyard
4. These networks are not putting LGBT+ issues at the front of university problems and instead, putting LGBT+ voices to the back of the room they focus on helping Non-lgbt+ people.
5. Many universities are creating Ally networks to improve Stonewall.
6. Universities should be educating and training staff to understand LGBT+ issues, but this can be done without creating a Non-LGBT+ group to tackle the issues.
7. A lot of money and time is being spent on creating allies' networks instead of using the money and resources to educate staff and/or using the money to support activism done by LGBT+ staff and student groups.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. NUS LGBT+ campaign to discourage universities from the creation of Allies networks
2. For NUS LGBT+ campaign to encourage universities and Student unions to pay LGBT+ people to give training to staff on LGBT+ issues

- 
3. NUS LGBT+ campaign to create an alternate checklist for SU's, universities and colleges on how to be more inclusive of LGBT+ people

Motion 102: UCAS to provide additional gender options

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That work has been done by previous NUS LGBT+ Officers to change the way that UCAS asks for and records data on gender identity.
2. That while there was work done by NUS and the Non-Binary Inclusion Project, UCAS Apply still has a drop-down menu with two genders: Male or Female.
3. They also ask if you identify as Transgender on some of their applications, but do not include this on the Teacher Training application for 2018.
4. There has been confusion from students who identify as Trans as to whether they should use the gender they were assigned at birth on their UCAS application, or the one that they identify as.
5. There is no option for students who are Non-Binary, genderqueer, gender-fluid, Intersex, or have another gender identity to provide this when registering for UCAS.
6. There has been confusion from students who identify as Trans as to whether they should use the gender they were assigned at birth on their UCAS application, or the one that they identify as.
7. There is no option for students who are Non-Binary, genderqueer, gender-fluid, Intersex, or have another gender identity.
8. Guidance from the Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) on how to record gender recommend that the options 'other' and 'prefer not to say' should be included as this "will allow anyone who associates with terms including intersex, androgyne, intergender, ambigender, gender fluid, polygender and genderqueer to complete the question."
9. That the above guidance is supported by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA).

LGBT+ Conference further believes


1. That UCAS should provide a 'prefer not to say' and an 'other' option and open text-box for students to write-in their gender identity, as advised by the Non-Binary Inclusion Project and HESA.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To re-engage with UCAS and lobby them to change the way that they ask for and record gender-identity.
2. To lobby for higher education institutions that haven't to update to the HESA guidelines in order to handle this data appropriately.

Motion 103: Foucault Slept with Dudes

LGBT+ Conference believes

- 
1. Although our campaign must continue to stand firmly against the marketisation of our institutions and a system that allows the most marginalised students to be priced out of education, the movement for free education is about more than scrapping fees.
 2. When talking about our vision for free education, we also need to discuss creating a liberated education system and curriculum across further and higher education.
 3. The LGBT+ identities of key contributors to academia are often erased, but should be celebrated as a means of empowering LGBT+ students to feel represented in their subject area. Additionally, the queer identity of academic figures can be useful in contextualising their ideas.
 4. Representation is not trickle-down, but the positive implications of having a curriculum and reading list that represent the diversity of the student population is a positive step towards a fair and liberated education system.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Challenging the presumed heterosexuality and gender of academic contributors within our learning spaces should be an active part of our work towards a liberated and free education.
2. There is currently next to no content on trans people's needs and LGBT+ specific sexual health on medicine courses, furthering our healthcare inequality through systematic erasure.
3. The majority of social sciences departments are behind when it comes to areas of study that are relevant to trans issues in particular. Outdated and often harmful understandings of gender are taught as fact, not only continuing the cycle of transphobic misinformation but also legitimising these ideas as academically sound and justified.
4. The marketisation of education is linked to the closure of less profitable courses and modules which disproportionately covers those that are LGBT+ relevant, such as Gender Studies.


LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To mandate the LGBT+ officers to work with Vice Presidents of Higher and further education on challenging the erasure of LGBT+ academic contributions, the closure of LGBT+ relevant courses and modules, and instances of homophobic and transphobic misinformation and erasure in the curriculum.
2. To continue to oppose the marketisation of education through supporting union campaigns to boycott the National Student Survey, oppose campus cuts and fees, and engage in actions of solidarity when university staff take industrial action that align with our vision for free education.
3. To lobby for LGBT+ inclusion and competency within all courses, but particularly medical courses, advocating for trans 101 workshops on campus specifically aimed at bridging the gap between our community's needs and the curriculum content that fails us.

Motion 104: We're Bringing Sex Ed Back

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Chemsex (the practice of engaging in sexual activity in conjunction with substances such as meth, GHB and mephedrone) is increasingly common, especially in urban areas. Primarily engaged in by



LGBT+ people, chemsex can facilitate risky sexual behaviour that is likely to have negative health implications.

2. Sex education and the provision of sexual health services within education in often very poor and rarely addresses the needs of LGBT+ people.
3. Stigma and a lack of readily available and relevant resources enforce unhealthy habits relating to sex and relationships within our community.
4. Trans people in particular face barriers when accessing sexual health services due to the intensely cissexist nature of services available, and are likely to avoid accessing services and getting tested altogether.
5. SUs often provide sexual health services but these are often limited, and sometimes aren't LGBT+ and trans inclusive.
6. Universities that state they are committed to protecting the welfare of their students should extend this to include pastoral sexual health services.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Sex Education for LGBT+ people needs to go further than applying mainstream sex education to an LGBT+ context, and instead needs to address relevant topics such as chemsex, HIV prevention and treatment, gender dysphoria, saunas as well as the fact that many LGBT+ people do not desire sex.
2. Sex education should be non-stigmatising, non-pathologising, and not sensationalist in its approach.
3. Positivity about sex and relationships often erases asexual and aromantic-spectrum experiences, but sex and relationship education is not inherently harmful to ace or aro people. Some ace and aro people do engage in sex and resources should acknowledge this.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To work with Sexpression, the national organisation that works to improve young people's understanding of sex and relationships, on distributing LGBT+ specific sexual health materials and training to students' union services.
2. To encourage LGBT+ groups and societies to challenge the stigma surrounding sexual health testing by organising events on campuses and communities, working with appropriate organisations such as The LGBT Foundation.
3. To encourage discussion on campuses surrounding the lack of LGBT+ specific education on identifying unhealthy behaviours within both sexual and romantic relationships.
4. To push for universities to provide competent LGBT-inclusive sexual health services under pastoral duties.
5. To advocate for sexual health workshops and testing sessions for specific groups such as trans people which are needed to address sexual health issues in the trans community.

Zone: Society & Citizenship

Motion 201: Commonwealth Decriminalisation Campaign



LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That NUS should be representative of its international students and be mindful of institutional and historical connections, which makes the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting relevant to the Society & Citizenship remit.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That 36 out of 52 Commonwealth countries currently punish same-sex activity
2. There is a meeting scheduled for April 2018 which all Commonwealth leaders will attend
3. It is imperative for NUS LGBT+ Campaign to be actively involved in amplifying the voices of international students who are affected by this prejudicial policy.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To actively support the campaign currently being spearheaded by the grassroots Commonwealth Equality Network
2. To push for decriminalisation and decolonisation by attending demonstrations and rallies, and signing petitions
3. To actively promote LGBT+ welfare in its international student body, including providing means for closeted students to safely engage in the wider LGBT+ network of the NUS
4. To promote awareness of the history of criminalisation in order to counter xenophobic backlash against involvement with an international body like the Commonwealth

Motion 202: Supporting Students Who Are Unable to Come Out

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That a narrative is present on campuses that encourages all LGBT+ students to come out.
2. That often a student's circumstances mean that coming out as LGBT+ might not be their safest option.
3. That there is a lack of support for students who do not feel able to come out as LGBT+.
4. That the current political climate and debate around LGBT+ issues has made it harder to come out as LGBT+.
5. That some international students might encounter different barriers regarding laws when coming out, and that some activists are not considerate of these difficulties.
6. That youth homelessness disproportionately affects LGBT+ people, and is linked to estrangement after coming out.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That some LGBT+ spaces might not be welcoming to students who do not feel able to, for whatever reason, disclose any aspect of their identity.
2. That some students who are unwilling to disclose aspects of their identity can feel alienated from campaigns that are meant to represent them.
3. That many students identify as an ally before coming out themselves.



LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To create a toolkit that is accessible to LGBT+ activists in higher and further education institutions with guidelines on how to be more inclusive to those who are unable to, for whatever reason, come out as LGBT+.
2. To liaise with HE/FE institutions to ensure that National Coming Out Day doesn't pressure students into coming out when it might not be best for them to do so.
3. To encourage LGBT+ groups of constituent members to be inclusive to allies and to not make assumptions regarding anyone's identity.
4. That the exclusion of allies could mean LGBT+ students who require more support do not receive this assistance.

Motion 203: Supporting the Decriminalisation of Sex Work

LGBT+ Conference believes


1. Sex work refers (but not limited) to escorting, lap dancing, stripping, pole dancing, pornography, webcamming, adult modelling, phone sex, and selling sex.
2. The current regime of austerity, and cuts to services and support have disproportionately affect trans women, trans migrants and trans people of colour.
3. Whilst sex work is not illegal in the UK it is still criminalised, sex workers who work on the street can be picked up on soliciting or anti-social behavioural order charges, and sex workers who work together indoors for safety can be charged with brothel keeping.
4. The rise in living costs, debt, the increase in tuition fees, and the slashing of benefits for disabled people, it is highly likely that some students do sex work alongside their studies in order to get from month to month.
5. Regardless of the reasons for entering into sex work, sex workers of all backgrounds deserve to have their rights protected.
6. The Student Sex Worker Project shows us that at least one in twenty students have engaged in sex work¹⁷.
7. Transgender Europe's recent report declares that 88% of murdered trans people in Europe are sex workers¹⁸.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. The pushes for legislation which would criminalise the purchase of sex (and introduce what is known as the 'Nordic Model') are often spearheaded by anti-choice, anti-LGBT+, right-wing fundamentalists and radical exclusionary feminists.
2. Often, legislation of this kind is brought forward in the name of anti-trafficking programmes, when in reality they are laws which aim to control what people can and can't do with their own bodies, combined with dangerous anti-immigration initiatives.

¹⁷ <http://www.thestudentsexworkproject.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/TSSWP-Research-Summary-English.pdf>

¹⁸ <http://transrespect.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/TvT-PS-Vol16-2017.pdf>

- 
3. Criminalising the purchase of sex puts sex workers, especially those who work on the street, in danger.
 4. Decriminalisation reduces police abuse, harassment and violence against sex workers.
 5. Organisations that support the decriminalisation of sex work include the World Health Organisation, UN Women, Amnesty International, the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, Human Rights Watch, NUS Women's Campaign.
 6. Decriminalisation would ensure that sex workers feel able to report unsafe clients or violence at work without the worry of criminal repercussions, and that those who wish to leave the sex industry are not left with criminal records as a result of their job.
 7. 7. Expulsion of or disciplining student sex workers for their involvement in sex work is counterproductive to their goals, safety and wellbeing.
 8. 8. "Outing" or letting others know about a student's status as a sex worker without their consent puts the student at great risk of harm, and is a form of harassment. "Whorephobia" is defined as the fear or hatred of sex workers, and can include using slurs against sex workers, excluding sex workers from societies or events, purposefully silencing the voices of sex workers, aggressively arguing for criminalisation or for the Nordic model without inclusion of current sex workers themselves, and maliciously outing a sex worker with intent to cause discipline or harm.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. The NUS LGBT+ campaign will support and campaign for the full decriminalisation of sex work.
2. To support sex worker led organisations, such as the English Collective of Prostitutes, SWARM, Sex Workers Alliance Ireland, and SCOT-PEP, who work to improve the lives of sex workers across the UK and beyond.
3. To campaign against any attempted to introduce the Nordic Model in the UK.
4. To support student sex workers being threatened with disciplinary action based solely or in part due to their status as a sex worker.
5. To support student sex workers that are being outed, targeted, faced with whorephobia or harassed in the university for their status as sex workers.

Motion 204: Always Anti-Fascist (but especially now)

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Fascist organisation and the legitimisation of fascist ideology is on the rise, in elections, on the streets and on our campuses.
2. The co-opting of LGBT+ issues by fascists is becoming increasingly common.
3. LGBT+ Jews, Muslims, and QTPOC are especially threatened by the growing presence of the far-right.
4. The responsibility of organising against fascists on campus is often shifted onto the most marginalised students whose right to freedoms such as political organising itself is challenged and denied by fascists.
5. As a result of this, much student anti-fascist work is reactionary as opposed to preventative.

- 
6. The NUS has an Anti-Racism Anti Fascism (ARAF) Campaign which is funded from the Cross liberation budget - a budget shared between all 5 liberation campaigns. Out of this budget also comes any cross-liberation work, such as last year's liberation activist training days.
 7. The Cross-liberation budget in the year 2017-2018 has been halved in comparison to previous years.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. There is an atmosphere of moral panic in the media around the use of no platforming as a tactic, but it remains an effective means of preventing fascists from spreading their propaganda on our campuses.
2. The right-wing Tory government and the Office for Students' prioritisation of maintaining "free speech" at universities often justifies the facilitation of violent fascist and transmisogynistic ideology that has material implications on the welfare and safety of students. This concern for "free speech" is hypocritical whilst they remain implementers of the racist Prevent duty.
3. Fascism has no place on our campuses and all action against it is justified.
4. It is vital that we constantly act in solidarity with - and acknowledge the unique struggles of - LGBT+ Jews, Muslims, and QTPOC students.
5. Fighting fascism is a collective responsibility of the entire student movement. As such, costs associated with campaigning against fascism should not exclusively be put on liberation groups.


LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To support the organising of anti-fascist groups and actions on campuses where possible.
2. To run workshops at appropriate NUS LGBT+ campaign events on LGBT+ led anti-fascist organising
3. To take a strong and principled stance against fascism and work with the Anti-Racism Anti-Fascism committee to educate students about the dangers of fascism and enable them to take action against fascism on their campuses.
4. For the NUS LGBT+ campaign to bring a motion to NUS National Conference supporting an increase in budget for the NUS Anti-Racism Anti Fascism Campaign as a separate and distinct budget from the Cross-Liberation budget. The Cross-Liberation budget should not be cut.
5. To continue to no platform fascist groups and to encourage individual student unions to do the same.
6. To support LGBT+ organising against the institutional and individual compliance to Prevent duty.

Motion 205: Pride (is a protest) Reacts Only

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Pride is the commemoration of the Stonewall Riots, a riot led by trans women of colour and sex workers. As such, Pride has a long history as an anti-capitalist, anti-police, anti-racist protest.
2. However, many Prides host a range of unethical corporations, including those involved in the arms trade, as part of their Parades. This allows these corporations to sanitise and "pinkwash" their image whilst still behaving in ways which harm working class LGBT+ people and LGBT+ people in the Global South.

- 
3. Banks that have denied trans people the right to change their details despite correct documentation, branches of the racist and homonationalist military, and the police force who continue to enact violence against our community are examples of organisations whose presence at Pride contradicts its undeniably political roots.
 4. At Glasgow Pride last year, three trans student activists were arrested and detained for non-violently protesting against the police leading the parade, and two others were arrested for carrying a sign saying, “these f*ggots fight fascism”.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Pride parades and events should be free, accessible, and community-based.
2. The corporatisation of Pride is a regrettable consequence of the growing exploitation of the “pink pound”, the advertiser friendly nature of LGBT+ events (especially large well-known Prides such as Manchester, London and Brighton) and the fact that some organisers want size and prestige for the sake of size and prestige.
3. Unfortunately, a lot of Pride organisers are forced to rely on sponsorship from the private and third-sectors. This can reduce the ability of Pride organisers to put political messages at the forefront of Pride events.

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. To encourage and lobby Pride organisers and local LGBT+ groups to centre the radical and political history of Pride in their work.
2. To encourage student LGBT+ groups to get involved in organising local as well as alternative free Prides, in particular pushing an anti-corporate, police-critical approach.
3. To encourage and continue to coordinate direct action against the celebration of the police and our corporate overlords at London, Manchester and Brighton Prides.

Motion 206: Transmisogyny and the Gender Recognition Act

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. The Gender Recognition Act (2004) was introduced to allow trans men and women the right to privacy and marriage. Under the Act, a person seeking recognition must provide evidence of having lived in their gender for 2 years to the government’s Gender Recognition Panel
2. The Act implicitly excludes intersex people, and makes no provision for non-binary gender identity.
3. Following the Trans Inquiry, the Westminster and Scottish governments have announced the potential for reforms to the GRA with consultations this year.
4. Since the announcement of the potential reforms there has been a huge backlash from transmisogynistic feminists (commonly referred to as TERFs) and the media, with the aim of discrediting the trans community and casting GRA reform as “anti-woman”.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

- 
1. Transmisogynistic feminists are campaigning to restrict women's services to people who are assigned female at birth only.
 2. A sex-at-birth restriction on women's services will harm trans and cis women alike. Trans women will be excluded from women's only services whilst trans men will have access, meaning that spaces are no longer womens-only.
 3. Policing spaces based on sex at birth is both unworkable (as this cannot be proved without an invasive examination) and is likely to result in butch cis women being policed out of services if they do not conform to a cisnormative gender presentation.
 4. Government recording of individual gender and trans status on a gender recognition register places trans people at further risk of oppression and violence. Cyber security is an ongoing issue, what if this information was leaked and distributed?
 5. Ending government regulation of gender does not preclude voluntary acknowledgement of gender to target services, support and protection for vulnerable groups.
 6. We should end mandatory state recognition of gender and move to a system of self-definition across the board.
 7. We support the existence of women's-only spaces and services. We want these to be open to all women (cis, trans, intersex and/or non-binary), not just those assigned female at birth.

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. To campaign to end the mandatory, immutable recording of gender on birth, marriage (or partnership) and death certificates
2. To campaign to end the legal notion of gender as a regulated list of acceptable identities
3. To campaign for the replacement of the Gender Recognition Act with a system of self-identification and the strengthening and extension of the protections that the Act affords to persons of all gender identities and histories without need for government registration.
4. Short of achieving wins outlined in resolves 2, the campaign should advocate for nonbinary legal recognition to not become a third exclusive gender option. As such, if you are a nonbinary woman, you should be able to be recognised as both nonbinary and a woman, rather than having to choose between different aspects of your identity.
5. The LGBT+ Campaign should work with the Women's Campaign and the Trans Campaign to ensure that both cis women and trans people respond to the GRA consultations in line with resolves 3 & 4.

Motion 207: Bringing an end to conversion therapy in the UK

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That as recent as 1990 the World Health Organisation considered homosexuality as a mental illness¹⁹
2. That the NHS, British Medical Association, and other leading counselling and psychotherapy bodies have condemned conversion therapy as dangerous, unethical and not required because being LGBT+ is not a mental illness²⁰

¹⁹ <http://www.pinknews.co.uk/2017/12/01/the-government-has-refused-to-make-gay-cure-therapy-illegal/>

- 
3. That a report by Stonewall found that one in ten staff in the NHS has witnessed a colleague expressing a belief that sexual orientation can be “cured”²¹
 4. That the government has chosen not to make conversion therapy illegal, as there is no ‘widespread’ evidence of gay cure therapy in the UK ²²

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That whether ‘widespread’ or not, the conversion therapy is always wrong
2. That the UK government should legislate to make conversion therapy illegal

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To create a toolkit that can be shared with students, LGBT+ societies, and others, that will aid them in campaigning against the practice of conversion therapy
2. To work with organisations that are already campaigning against this, so we can end this practice for good
3. To lobby the government to criminalise this practice.

Motion 208: Homelessness in the LGBTI+ Community

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That it is unacceptable that 24% of young homeless people are LGBTI+ and that those individuals have to choose between being open about their sexuality, or having to hide who they are to have a home.
2. It is difficult that 77% believe coming out to their parents believe that coming out has impacted on their homelessness with no support given.
3. That more support should be given to those who find themselves homeless, 6075 free nights’ accommodation was given to homeless people in the UK last year alone.
4. That there is currently too little support given to this issue nationally by NUS, government, and by institutions.

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. Promote the toolkit for estranged students produced in 2017 by the NUS LGBT+ campaign in collaboration with the charity Standalone²³ and ensure SUs and activists are aware of it and know how to access it.
2. That NUS LGBT+ Campaign engages with and does meaningful work on LGBT+ homelessness with the Albert Kennedy Trust.
3. The LGBT+ Campaign will run a national campaign on LGBT+ Students and homelessness to bring awareness to this issue, lobby decision makers, and partner with other relevant organisations.

²⁰ <http://www.stonewall.org.uk/campaign-groups/conversion-therapy>

²¹ <http://www.stonewall.org.uk/campaign-groups/conversion-therapy>

²² <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/bbc-gay-conversion-therapy-banned-online-poll-question-outrage-radio-kent-a8010936.html>

²³ <https://www.nusconnect.org.uk/resources/estranged-students-solidarity-campaign-guide>

- 
4. That the LGBT+ Campaign will work with Students' Unions and LGBT+ societies and networks at affiliated Unions to run campaigns on campus and in their communities on better access to housing for LGBT+ students, and securing emergency accommodation for LGBT+ students that find themselves estranged or homeless.

Motion 209: Fighting for Marriage Equality in Northern Ireland

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. In the most recent assembly vote, 51% of MLAs voted for marriage equality. This majority has increased; however, the lack of a Northern Ireland Executive prevents further votes.
2. Over 70% of the Northern Irish public are in support of marriage equality.
3. However, Northern Ireland is the only place in western Europe without marriage equality.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. The lack of marriage equality is a symbol of discrimination that is used to justify prejudice against LGBT people.
2. NUS-UK has a responsibility for the entirety of the UK and that the LGBT campaign in NUS-UK must do all that it can within its ability to support the campaign for marriage equality in Northern Ireland.

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. To support any and all campaigns run by NUS-USI's LGBT officer with regards to marriage equality.
2. To support any and all campaigns run by the Love Equality Coalition's campaign for equal marriage in Northern Ireland with regards to marriage equality.
3. To rally with Northern Ireland in the demand for change with regards to marriage equality.

Motion 210: Defending Women-Loving-Women Spaces

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. The umbrella of "women-loving-women" can include (but is not limited to) lesbians, bi women, pan women, queer women etc.
2. There is a great deal of erasure of WLW culture in general LGBT+ culture. Our stories are not told as regularly and our sexual activity is fetishised by men who don't respect us.
3. The number of spaces that centre WLW (lesbian bars etc.) has dramatically decreased over the past decade. The fact that it is disproportionately WLW night-time spaces disappearing is often erased in the gay media.
4. Lesbian and bi women's cultures are often treated as 'unfeminist' and conforming to gender norms *because" of gender non-conformity.
5. Trans people (especially trans women) are blamed for the reduction in WLW spaces.
6. Bi women and trans women often experiences biphobia and/or transmisogyny in lesbian spaces

LGBT+ Conference further believes

- 
1. Women-loving-women often have particular needs that can only be addressed in women's-only spaces.
 2. WLW deserve women's only services and events in student LGBT+ spaces.
 3. We experience homophobia in straight-centred women's spaces and misogyny in male-dominated LGBT+ spaces.
 4. Lesbophobia and gendered forms of biphobia among others are often not treated seriously.
 5. Trans people (in particular trans women) are not to blame for the reduction in WLW spaces.
 6. Lesbians, bi women, queer women etc. can be trans women and/or non-binary.
 7. WLW spaces that do exist can often be incredibly white-dominated.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To conduct research on the experiences of WLW in the local LGBT+ scene and what members who are WLW want from the NUS LGBT+ Campaign.
2. To support the existence of WLW spaces in LGBT+ groups on campus.

To challenge transmisogyny, biphobia and racism in WLW spaces, and encourage activists to do the same.

1. Challenge terminology that promote negative stereotypes including 'disorder' and 'abnormal'
2. Seek the views of students born with intersex characteristics who identify as LGBT+ to explore how best to support them.

Motion 211: Bi-Erasure – continuing invisibility in our campaign

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That work has been done by previous NUS LGBT+ Officers to tackle bi-erasure specifically, both in wider society and in the LGBT+ community.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That bi-erasure is a problem in our community, and that the NUS LGBT+ campaign should acknowledge and address this.


LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. That there will be an annual campaign on saying 'bye bye to bi-erasure,' with the LGBT+ Officers consulting and working with Bi+ students to deliver this.
2. That Bi Visibility day should be marked by the campaign every year, with at the very least a blog and providing Students' Unions and on-campus LGBT+ groups with the campaigning against Bi-Erasure toolkit, 'A guide to becoming bi-inclusive for student activists and officers.'

Zone: Strong & Active Unions

Motion 301: Keeping the T in LGBT+

LGBT+ Conference believes

- 
1. An increasing number of Constituent Members have created representation for trans and non-binary students within their democratic structures.
 2. In the case of some institutions where representation for trans and non-binary students has been created, the 'T' has been removed from the LGBT+ representative role name turning it into LGB+ or LGBQ+.
 3. A majority of trans and non-binary individuals also identify as LGB+. According to the Trans Mental Health Study 2012²⁴, only 20% of participants ticked straight on a question of sexual orientation. As this was a multiple-choice question, people were able to tick other boxes, so some of these people may also fall under LGB+.
 4. Straight trans students do not experience the same degree of privilege from their orientation as cisgender straight students, and should continue to be represented by LGBT+ groups on matters relating to their orientation.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. It is important to ensure trans and non-binary students have the opportunity to decide how they feel their voices should be represented within their constituent member's democratic structures.
2. Where representation for trans and non-binary students is created, it is important to ensure that they are still being represented within the LGBT+ representative role on matters pertaining to sexual orientation, romantic orientation, polyamory and intersex related issues.
3. Maintaining the 'T' in LGBT+ where a separate trans representative has been created, reflects the inclusivity of the role towards representing trans and non-binary students on matters pertaining to sexual orientation, romantic orientation, polyamory and intersex related issues.

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. To mandate the LGBT+ Committee to liaise with the NUS Trans Campaign in designing a toolkit around Trans representation within SU's, including with a potential focus on:
2. The Importance of ensuring trans and non-binary students have their own representation.
3. Ensuring where trans representation is created that it is inclusive of non-binary students.
4. Feedback and advice from institutions which currently have trans representation on issues including but not limited to engagement, promotion, the relationship between the LGBT+ and trans representatives.
5. Template motion in creating trans representation.
6. To encourage for the 'T' to remain within a Constituent Member LGBT+ representative role, campaign and/or group name and focus where separate trans representation has been created.

Motion 302: Liberating Nations Liberation

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Nations is an NUS term that refers to NUS Wales, NUS Scotland and NUS USI.

https://www.gires.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/trans_mh_study.pdf ²⁴

- 
2. Just like NUS UK each nation has its own set of liberation officers.
 3. With the exception of the Women's Officer roles in NUS Wales and Scotland, all nations liberation roles are voluntary and not paid.
 4. Many part-time officers need to have a part-time job on top of their studies and NUS role for this reason.
 5. A lot of laws involving equality and matters that relate to liberation students in the nations are devolved to parliaments and assemblies in the nations.
 6. Despite this there is still not enough resources provided to assist nation liberation work.
 7. Because most NUS Liberation Officers roles in the nations are voluntary they have the responsibility to carry out their campaign's policy on small resources whilst also likely studying and working

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Liberation Officers should be paid for their labour.
2. The student movement must provide more resources and funds for liberation campaigns in the nations.
3. NUS should reallocate funds to pay its nations liberation officers at least 10 hours a week and be paid the real living wage or more.
4. These funds should not be reallocated from liberation or nation budgets.
5. Demanding free labour from marginalised groups of students stands against NUS' ideals of liberation.


LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. That NUS LGBT+ should campaign to have the Voluntary NUS Nation Liberation Officers positions to be instead paid for at least 10 hours a week at the real living wage or more.
2. That NUS LGBT+ should submit policy to national conference to have paid NUS Nation Liberation Officers each year until we have won this issue.

Motion 303: Hate definitely has no place on campuses

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. NUS has a duty to protect and promote the rights of those who self-define as LGBT+, at University or College or wider society.
2. All students, regardless of their gender, sexual or romantic identity, have the right to a safe environment at their institution.
3. Transphobia is an irrational dislike, hatred, prejudice and/or discriminatory action towards individuals who define as trans.
4. Homophobia is an irrational dislike, hatred, prejudice and/or discriminatory action towards individuals who define as Gay or Lesbian.
5. Biphobia is an irrational dislike, hatred, prejudice and/or discriminatory action towards individuals who define as Bisexual

- 
6. NUS Liberation Campaigns have previously passed 'No Platform' and "no invite" policies in order to protect students from individuals who preach and incite hatred against an individual based upon their identity.
 7. Legally "hate speech" does not cover transphobic speech.
 8. On the 26th December 2017, Jo Johnson MP announced that the new "Office for Students" will not allow "safe spaces" or "no platforming" on campuses.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Transphobic, homophobic, biphobic, racist, sexist, ableist, xenophobic, Islamophobic, and/or anti-Semitic speakers have no place at our institutions.
2. "No sharing of platforms" and "no invite" policies do not limit the freedom of speech.
3. Transphobic/homophobic/biphobic speech should be legally recognised as hate speech.
4. Transphobia/homophobia/biphobia and transphobic/homophobic/biphobic speakers have led to poor access to health care and welfare services by spreading myths about trans people.
5. By allowing transphobic/homophobic/biphobic speakers onto campus this can affect the mental health of trans students on campus.
6. By giving a speaker a platform it is a method to legitimise their views.
7. The sharing of content on social media is also granting a platform.
8. Covering transphobic speech both in a positive and negative light is still granting it a platform.
9. Transphobic/homophobic/biphobic speech is still transphobic/homophobic/biphobic hate speech even if they are a member of another or the same liberation group.
10. There is no such thing as reverse discrimination.

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. For Officers to not share platforms with transphobic speakers including but not limited to: Germaine Greer, Julie Bindle, Julie Burchill and Milo Yiannopoulos.
2. Encourage students' unions to have safe spaces for LGBT+ people, as well spaces where they can operate autonomously.
3. Work on making transphobic speech covered under the definition of "hate speech"
4. To actively campaign against Office for Students decision to ban "safe spaces" and "no platforming" on campuses.

Motion 304: Supporting the NUS-USI LGBT Campaign

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. There is only one unpaid part time LGBT officer for Northern Ireland.
2. NUS-USI did not have an LGBT officer, LGBT conference or LGBT campaign in 2016-17.
3. There were no delegates from Northern Ireland to NUS LGBT conference in year 2016-17.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

- 
1. The LGBT campaign in Northern Ireland is the least supported with terms of finance and its capacity.
 2. LGBT people in Northern Ireland have less rights²⁵ than those in other parts of the UK and are facing a mental health crisis therefore the need for support the LGBT campaign is urgent.
 3. The LGBT campaign in Northern Ireland must receive financial assistance from NUS UK.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To provide substantial financial support to the LGBT campaign in NUS-USI.
2. To provide support in the production of campaign materials.
3. To work with, for, and include NUS-USI's LGBT officer in the work of NUS UK to ensure active participation from NUS in LGBT campaigns in Northern Ireland.

Motion 305: Reinforcing and protecting our autonomy

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. That at present, motions passed at liberation conferences, including LGBT+ conference, must be ratified by NUS National Conference
2. That this applies to rules revision motions as well as policy motions
3. This means that rules revision motions passed at a liberation conference which takes place after national conference may not take effect for up to 2 conference cycles (if the following conference takes place before National Conference, the changes will not have been ratified)

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That this limits the autonomy of liberation conferences, who may need to change their standing orders faster than is currently possible

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To mandate the NEC and National Conference representatives of the LGBT+ Campaign to propose, support, and otherwise lend assistance to a motion to national conference which will seek to amend NUS rules in order to allow liberation campaigns to have autonomy over their own standing orders, including the ability to change them without being subject to the policy adoption process


Motion 306: Activist Training Guide

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. NUS hosts activist trainings days, however not everyone is able to attend
2. NUS does little to train non-sabbatical officers in campaigning skills

LGBT+ Conference further believes

²⁵ 1Northern Ireland does not have equal marriage legislation. Northern Ireland also has a new year blood ban on LGBT people. Northern Ireland is not part of the Equality Act (2010).

- 
1. LGBT+ Officers in small institutions and institutions away from large cities often lack a large network with which to share the workload of running campaigns.
 2. NUS should support and nurture grassroots activists
 3. There are a wide range of tactics available, ranging from lobbying to direct action
 4. In the absence of a wide range of resources from NUS, the NUS LGBT+ campaign should empower students to create their own.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. In the first instance NUS LGBT+ Campaign should call on NUS to create and publish an activist training guide that includes a wide range of tactics.
2. If NUS does not create and publish this activist training guide then the NUS LGBT+ Campaign should.

Motion 307: Back to the Future (and by future, I mean grassroots)

LGBT+ Conference believes


1. NUS LGBT+ campaign does not and historically has not had the infrastructure to adequately train or support part-time liberation activists, including “part-time” volunteer LGBT+ officers and leaders of LGBT+ groups on campus.
2. Sabbatical officers are prioritised for training events by NUS overall, with many events such as Students Unions Conference, Lead and Change, and Zones Conference being effectively sabb-only, and run at during the week at times that student activists, especially FE students, find difficult to access.
3. There isn’t a single full time paid LGBT+ Officer in a Students Union in the country, the only liberation group out of women’s, BME and disabled which does not.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. The nature of grassroots liberation work means much of the labour undertaken by SU officers and equivalent part-time positions goes unrecognised.
2. Representing a marginalised group of students can be emotionally draining, with activists often expected to challenge blatant discrimination on campus with little support.
3. Often, the existence of unpaid liberation and ‘autonomy’ is used to justify a lack of action from salaried student leaders and unions themselves.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To dedicate resources to training part-time LGBT+ activists throughout the academic year.
2. To lobby NUS leadership to put more focus on events and resources that specifically support non-sabbatical grassroots liberation activists.
3. To consult with volunteer student activists on how to make NUS liberation events more accessible and relevant to them.

- 
4. To facilitate the sharing of the successes and best practice of LGBT+ volunteer work in unions across the nations.

Motion 308: FEgotten

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. NUS is made up of affiliated Student Unions, 65% of which are further Education Institutes.
2. FTO have a remit to represent all affiliated members not just those with well developed campaigns on campus
3. In LGBT+ Campaign should be supporting and developing the liberation campaigns at FE institutes to enable them to have a nation voice and take part in the national campaign
4. In 2015 the "LGBT and FE Research" was completed giving key finds and recommendations for FE Institutes which have not been campaign

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. LGBT+ Campaign to work with the VPUD on developing FE Unions around to enable to take part in activities
2. LGBT+ to have a travel bursary of £2000 to support FE to attend and claim the free FE Space at conferences
3. To launch a campaign ensuring further education learning providers focus efforts on protecting and preventing learners from experiencing homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying, harassment and assault.
4. The LGBT+ campaign should support Student Unions' to harness those LGBT+ learners' in involved course representation and activism to gather views about LGBT+ students' experiences, help to develop and publicise equality policies, and support and nurture LGBT+ groups, with the aim of increasing awareness of LGBT+ learners' experiences amongst the wider community.


Motion 309: Linking FE & HE groups

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. FE (further Education) unions make up 65% of NUS membership but are hugely under-represented, both at conference and within the campaign.
2. Only 11 delegates voted in the election for FE reps on LGBT+ Committee in 2016.
3. FE institutions often lack the resources and capacity to effectively facilitate LGBT+ activism of any kind, including engagement with NUS LGBT+ campaign.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Drawing links between LGBT+ groups in university student unions and networks of LGBT+ students in further education will be useful, in terms of building capacity in FE and better engaging HE students in their local communities.

- 
2. Many of our experiences as LGBT+ people are (if not universal) very common. This is regardless of studying in a university, college or via an apprenticeship. However, our struggle needs to cover all our movement, not just those who are lucky enough to study in an institution that allows them better access to NUS and student politics.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To create national infrastructure that links local FE LGBT+ groups with HE LGBT+ groups, uniting shared struggles and encouraging cross-campus liberation campaign work.
2. To recommend that Students' Unions in the HE sector build better links with FE students.
3. To mandate the NUS LGBT+ Officers to hold the Vice-President further Education of NUS accountable for the actions they are taking on improving the representation of LGBT+ students in FE on their campuses and in NUS.


Motion 310: You should join a trade union

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. One in five (19 per cent) lesbian, gay and bi employees have experienced verbal bullying from colleagues, customers or service users because of their sexual orientation in the last five years
2. One in eight (13 per cent) lesbian, gay and bi employees would not feel confident reporting homophobic bullying in their workplace
3. A quarter (26 per cent) of lesbian, gay and bi workers are not at all open to colleagues about their sexual orientation
4. Nearly half (42 per cent) of trans people are prevented from expressing their gender identity because they fear it might threaten their employment status
5. Over 10 per cent of trans people experienced being verbally abused and six per cent were physically assaulted at work. As a consequence of harassment and bullying, a quarter of trans people will feel obliged to change their jobs
6. That these statistics are likely higher in reality and that these statistics do not feature research on the issues LGBT+ people face when attempting to gain employment.
7. LGBT+ students face being 'outed' on their CV or HEAR record due to involvement in their LGBT+ society
8. Trans people are at risk of discrimination at multiple levels in the employment market, from name discrepancies in application forms to being misgendered or discriminated against at interview.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. A watering down of employment rights, from tribunals to proposed changes in the right to strike, means that LGBT+ people in work are more vulnerable
2. Changes to job seekers allowance means that LGBT+ people are being forced to apply for jobs they may not feel comfortable in or face losing their benefits.

- 
3. Trade Union's have long been supporters of the LGBT+ movement, and stand in solidarity with us today.
 4. Equality in employment experience and employment rights is a key trade union issue.
 5. The number of students who are members of a trade union is small and is decreasing still, despite the constant attack on our employment rights by the present government.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To actively work with trade unions on university campuses and at further education colleges to promote trade union membership for LGBT+ students.
2. To conduct research into the experiences of LGBT+ students seeking employment during their studies, as well as their experiences seeking employment after they have graduated.
3. To use this research and work with trade unions to fight discrimination of LGBT+ workers on a national level by lobbying MPs and placing pressure on large employers to take a better public stand against LGBT+ discrimination.

Zone: Welfare & Student Rights

Motion 401: Disability Students in LGBT+

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. The rights of so many students who have a disability are not fairly represented in their societies and also in their universities.
2. Many students have felt uncomfortable and have felt left out by their peers whether it was in the society or in university.
3. This is still bullying and it is unfair to these students.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Students with disabilities should not be dismissed by their peers because of their disabilities. LGBT+ associations and networks should make sure they include and represent ALL of their members.
2. A significant amount of LGBT+ students are disabled..

LGBT+ Conference resolves


1. To agree to make societies in Higher Education and further education institutes more welcoming for those with disabilities who identify as LGBT+.

Motion 402: Tackling the Mental Health Crisis in Northern Ireland

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. 47% of LGBT people in Northern Ireland have considered suicide²⁶.
2. 25% of LGBT people in Northern Ireland have attempted suicide.

²⁶ Mental Health in Northern Ireland ... - Mental Health Foundation PDF<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk> > files – page 11

- 
3. 35% of LGBT people in Northern Ireland have self-harmed.
 4. 71% of LGBT people in Northern Ireland have suffered from depression.
 5. 41% of Trans people in Northern Ireland have attempted suicide²⁷.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. There is a mental health crisis in the Northern Irish LGBT community.
2. NUS-UK support of the NUS-USI LGBT officer's campaigns to highlight and address the mental health crisis is required.
3. Fragmented anti-discrimination legislation, marriage inequality, anti-LGBT rhetoric and policies from leading political figures and limited protection under current legislation contribute to the current mental health crisis.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To provide support for mental health campaigns run by NUS-USI's LGBT officer.
2. To include NUS-USI's LGBT officer in any mental health campaigns ran by NUS UK.
3. To campaign against the reduced rights of LGBT people in NI.

Motion 403: Trans Reproductive Rights Now!

Constituent Member: NUS LGBT+ Committee


LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Parenthood has previously been used as grounds to deny providing a Gender Recognition Certificate.
2. The NHS offers the option to apply for funding through local CCGs for gamete storage to individuals whose medical treatment might affect their ability to conceive a child. However, numerous trans individuals have been denied this service seemingly on the basis of their trans status. It is now the case that it is very rare to receive this funding due to lack of funding able to be provided by CCGs.
3. Various trans individuals have been denied IVF treatment from private IVF clinics on the basis of their trans status by so-called "ethical committees" of random staff untrained in equality issues.
4. Action for Trans Health, a trans health-care campaign which the NUS LGBT campaign affiliated to in 2014, has a reproductive justice campaign.
5. There is little research on the effects of any trans related HRT on fertility or on ways to reduce the fertility damaging effects of the treatment.
6. Many people are refused gamete storage due to genetic condition, although they would be allowed, and able, to reproduce if this were not needed. This particularly affects trans people.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That delaying or denying someone gender recognition certificate on the basis of parenting a child is deeply unacceptable and is a violation of trans people's reproductive rights

²⁷ www.eani.org.uk/_resources/assets/attachment/full/0/51716.pdf - page 18

- 
2. That trans people should have free, open access to gamete storage and IVF. The guidelines for accessing these services should be clear and easily accessible.
 3. Trans people of all ages are being made to make a potentially life long decision between important gender affirming treatments and having the choice to have biological offspring.
 4. Adoption is often a much more difficult process for trans people to access, particularly trans feminine people, and in any case should not be the only option of parenthood.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. Write to the Gender Recognition Panel to express concern that a parent status is being used to deny or delay the legal recognition of trans peoples' genders. Ask the gender recognition panel to produce a publicly accessible list of criteria by which they adjudicate on someone's gender.
2. Run a workshop at activist training days on reproductive justice for trans people.
3. Support any appropriate actions or protests on this issue organised by Action for Trans Health and any similar organisations
4. Actively campaign for better equality for trans and nonbinary folk for access to having children, and support existing campaigns
5. Actively campaign for research to be done on the effects of HRT on fertility, ways to reduce harm, and the extents to which fertility is recoverable.


Motion 404: Mutual Aid > Self Care

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Our movement and campaign is primarily made up of unpaid liberation activists who juggle their studies with activism.
2. The prevailing narrative surrounding activist burnout regularly refers to selfcare as the ultimate mechanism by which we can maintain our struggle. We are told that in order to keep organising effectively, we should simply take a break, read a book, or have a bath. There is a focus on individual, and opposed to collective responsibility for meeting our basic needs.
3. Mutual aid refers to the approach of looking after each other through prioritising one another's mental health and sustained capacity, and sharing adopted responsibilities in our organising circles. It means organising in a way that acknowledges that we are human, that life is messy, and activism can be time-consuming and uniquely draining.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Critically reflecting on how we organise both individually and collectively ensures we stay grounded and effective.
2. Self-care and preservation is an inherently political act, but the current narrative encourages an individualistic approach to welfare, and often centres classist and ableist understandings of looking after ourselves.

- 
3. If our campaign for the liberation of LGBT+ students is to be sustainable it has to be built upon a nuanced understanding of individual capacity and our limitations to organise as students, many of whom have mental health problems that impact our abilities for sustained organising.
 4. We should be building a movement that is compassionate and challenges the cycle of burnout as an inevitable part of student activism.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To produce and distribute practical toolkits to student's unions, LGBT+ societies, and directly to part-time liberation officers where relevant, that encourage mutual aid and activist solidarity within organising spaces.
2. To create these resources through open consultation and engagement with the same volunteer and part-time activists we are aiming to support.

Motion 405: Exploiting the Mental Health Crisis

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Recently there has been a trend to advertise LGBT+ focused counselling on social media, such as Facebook, using targeted adverts
2. These adverts target LGBT+ people who may be experiencing mental health problems based on Facebook behaviour
3. That the LGBT+ community faces disproportionate mental health difficulties, sometimes as a result of, or exacerbated by, being LGBT

LGBT+ Conference further believes


1. That LGBT+ people, and especially those with mental health difficulties, need access to good welfare resources, and better support which is focused on being inclusive of LGBT+ identities
2. That several of the companies using this tactic to reach potential customers are not well established as sources of mental health support
3. However, that targeting vulnerable LGBT+ people through targeted advertising is not the right way to go about this, and can lead to vulnerable people spending money as an impulse on inadequate services

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To mandate LGBT+ Committee to: investigate the practice of counselling services using targeted Facebook adverts to reach vulnerable LGBT+ people as a means of promoting their services advertise respected and trusted sources of mental health support for LGBT+ people such as switchboard

Motion 406: QTIPOC Mental Health - Action Now

LGBT+ Conference believes

- 
1. Almost 22% of gay or bisexual men experience moderate to severe levels of depression and anxiety, compared to seven per cent of their straight counterparts. 3% of gay men have attempted to take their own lives, increasing to 5% amongst BAME men, 5% of bisexual men and 7% of gay or bisexual men with a disability.
 2. 79% of lesbian and bisexual women say they have had a spell of sadness, felt miserable or felt depressed. This goes up to 84% of bisexual women and to a staggering 86% of black and minority ethnic women. 5% of lesbian or bisexual women have attempted suicide, increasing to 7% for BAME women and 10% of lesbian and bisexual women with a disability.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. That whilst LGBT+ people are more likely to suffer from depression and anxiety compared to their straight counterparts, that QTPOC face even more barriers and are more likely to suffer even more.
2. That the King's Fund think tank found that 40% Mental health trusts have seen cuts to their budgets and that none of the £8bn extra funding for the NHS over the last 4 years has gone to mental health services. Additionally, the number of the nurses in mental health hospitals reduced by 5000 nurses since 2010.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. That QTPOC leadership events will help empower QTPOC in our movement and help build their confidence and give them the tools they need to tackle mental health stigma in their communities and wider society.
2. That the government set up an independent cross-party body that regulates mental health services and determines its funding, taking mental health services out of the political arena.


Motion 407: LGBTI+ Body Positivity

Conference believes

1. That LGBTI+ individuals regularly face body confidence issues.
2. Recently this has been fuelled by the increase in apps such as Grindr, media failing to portray a variety of body types and the attitudes of the community on social media.
3. That the attitude of sub-groups in describing bodies e.g. 'no fat', 'fit only', can lead to individuals feeling isolated from their sexual identity.
4. Feeling under body confident can lead to increased issues around an individual's mental health particularly where they feel unable to engage with the LGBTI+ community.

Conference resolves

1. The NUS LGBT+ Campaign is mandated to run a campaign on LGBTI+ Body Positivity.
2. That NUS engages with dating apps, LGBT+ media companies and associated organisations to work together on building a more inclusive body positivity culture.

- 
3. That NUS will provides resources and support on body positivity, information on where to get support and similarly related activities.

Motion 408: Know Ya Rights So We Can Fights

LGBT+ Conference believes


1. The last year has seen a number of student-led protests and direct action; including occupations, rent strikes and interventions at Pride.
2. Direct action and other forms of protest can attract attention from the police force, who (as established in previous campaign policy) continue to pose a threat to LGBT+ people, and especially LGBT+ people of colour.
3. There is a lack of knowledge within our community when it comes to our right to protest, as well as what to do if you are arrested.
4. Green and Black Cross are a grassroots organisation providing materials and legal support for activists involved in social and environmental struggles. They have recently produced a guide specifically about trans people's rights whilst protesting, which is one of the few resources specifically relevant to LGBT+ protesters.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Direct action and other forms of protest have always been and always will be a tactic close to the heart of the student movement.
2. When arrests are made, they often undertaken not for legal, but political reasons. The safety and wellbeing of those being arrested is regularly disregarded by the police as they are made an example of in order to discourage further direct action.
3. Fear of arrest can deter activists, especially those who are young or new to the movement, from engaging in direct action and protest.
4. Activists are likely to face unfair treatment and violence at the hands of the police. If unequipped with knowledge relating to rights and the process of arrest, the process can be especially isolating and traumatic.
5. Being arrested and interacting with the police can be especially distressing for trans people due to the violently gendered and transphobic nature of the prison industrial complex. This can take the form of unnecessary invasive searches, the refusal of healthcare while detained, overt discrimination from police officers as well as institutional misgendering through placing individuals in the incorrectly gendered facility.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To work with Green and Black Cross and other relevant organisations to support LGBT+ students who are involved in direct action.
2. To provide practical support and stand in solidarity with LGBT+ students who participate in direct action relevant to values and interests of our campaign.

- 
3. To encourage critical discussion on campuses around the role of the police force as an institution that “protects the public”.
 4. To produce a workshop about protest rights aimed specifically at LGBT+ students to be delivered at conferences and training events.
 5. To encourage LGBT+ societies and campaigns to disseminate information about how LGBT+ groups have used direct action and protest to win campaigns in the past as part of LGBT+ history month activities.

Zone: Rules Revision


Motion 501: Political Blackness Is Defunct

LGBT+ Conference believes

1. Motion 402 entitled “QTIPoC (Queer Trans Intersex People of Colour) was sent to the Black Caucus in 2017 within which members unanimously voted in favour of the policy
2. The concept of “political blackness” is currently used in NUS LGBT+ Campaign, and by the NUS at large
3. The NUS Black Students’ Campaign are currently undertaking a consultation into political blackness with a view to change their name. This will be proposed at NUS Black Students’ Summer Conference in 2018, rubber-stamped by national conference in 2019 with the change taking effect in the new officer term in 2019
4. Currently the NUS LGBT+ Campaign’s Standing Orders make reference to those who “self-define as Black”.
5. The current definition of “political blackness” in NUS makes reference to those who are of African, Caribbean, Arab, and Asian descent.
6. There are vast distinctions between Asian, Arab, Caribbean and African communities, including how they are affected by racism, educational, academic and economic attainment. It is unrealistic to package us all together under the umbrella of “Black Students”.
7. The use of the blanket term ‘black’ erases the huge cultural differences, manufacturing and enforced sense of “solidarity”. Identities should not be forged out of experiences of oppression and racism alone, but also through a sense of shared cultural references.

LGBT+ Conference further believes

1. Whilst political blackness may have at one point been useful in the context of the UK’s history of racialized people organising against racism, fascism and white supremacy, it is no longer appropriate.
2. “Political blackness” makes the identity of black people in the UK an umbrella term as opposed to their actual identity
3. Black people who have publicly questioned political blackness in NUS have often been shouted down and are accused of being divisive.

- 
4. The current definition of Black in the Campaign's standing orders currently aren't inclusive of non-Arab people from the Middle East as well as people who have indigenous or mixed heritage from the Americas and the South Pacific.
 5. The term 'Black' is evocative of people of African and Caribbean origins, using the language 'Black' when referring to Asian, Arab, Caribbean and African communities together is misleading and unrepresentative.
 6. The use of the term 'black' as an umbrella can present itself as a barrier and a silencing mechanism, to the voices of ethnically black individuals within the student movement.
 7. The term 'black students' suggests a false essentialism: that all non-white groups should share the same experience as Black people and vice versa. The term and misleading use of language conflates the differences of radically diverse people, boxing them together by virtue of non-whiteness. When in fact within some BME communities there is a culture of anti-blackness which can be overlooked when we are all placed under the umbrella of 'Black'.
 8. QTIPOC is the generally accepted acronym for people of colour who are also LGBT+.

LGBT+ Conference resolves

1. To amend the standing order so that black students caucus becomes QTIPOC caucus.
2. To provide information on what QTIPOC stands for at all NUS LGBT+ events.
3. To replace:

"15. A Constituent Member shall be allocated a basic delegate entitlement of two (2) to six (6) delegates, which shall be based on student numbers at that Constituent Member, using the NUS National Conference formula appropriately scaled. Additionally, each CM shall be allocated one (1) Black Members' Place delegate, one (1) Trans Members' Place delegate and one (1) Disabled Place delegate."

with:

"15. A Constituent Member shall be allocated a basic delegate entitlement of two (2) to six (6) delegates, which shall be based on student numbers at that Constituent Member, using the NUS National Conference formula appropriately scaled. Additionally, each CM shall be allocated one (1) QTIPOC Members' Place delegate, one (1) Trans Members' Place delegate and one (1) Disabled Place delegate. "


4. To replace:

"22.g Black Students Caucus"

with

"22.g QTIPOC (Queer, Trans and Intersex People of Colour) Students Caucus"

5. To replace:



"26. Black Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as Black and/or the existing Black Students' Representatives."

with

"26. QTIPOC Students Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who define as African, Middle Eastern, Afro-Caribbean or Asian descent; and/or descended from the indigenous populations of the Americas and/or the South Pacific and/or the existing QTIPOC Students' Representatives."

6. To replace:

"104.d One (1) Black Students Representative, elected by and from the Black Students' Caucus."

with

"104.d One (1) QTIPOC Students Representative, elected by and from the QTIPOC Students' Caucus."

7. To replace:

"104.h One (1) Black Students Representative (Women's Place) elected by and from self-defining women students of Black Students' Caucus."

with

"104.h One (1) QTIPOC Students Representative (Women's Place) elected by and from self-defining women students of QTIPOC Students' Caucus."

8. To replace:

"138. There will be a Black Students place on the Steering Committee, this position shall last for only one term and be elected at the Black Students Caucus."

with

"138. There will be a QTIPOC Students place on the Steering Committee, this position shall last for only one term and be elected at the QTIPOC Students Caucus."

9. To clarify the status of the Black LGBT+ Subcommittee and how the name can be changed to QTIPOC subcommittee


10. To review the names of the QTIPoC reps, subcommittee and caucus as appropriate following on from NUS Black Students' Campaign name change.

Policy Lapse

Motion 405: Ensuring LGBT*+ support of non-binary students*

Conference believes

1. There is a constant level of aggression displayed towards those who Identify as queer/non-binary, using terms such a genderfluid/genderqueer and agender pronouns (they/them, ze/zir), within education and work.

- 
2. Those who are non-binary are often unrepresented and not taken seriously when being discussed in the LGBT*QIA community despite being defined in the full acronym.
 3. Those who identify this way should not be forced to define themselves by cis or trans* people due to a lack of education and should be considered as seriously as everyone else.
 4. People whose gender identity is not adequately described by binary terminology are often unable to have their gender recorded correctly by unions, colleges, universities and the state.

Conference further believes

1. The concept of not functioning under a gender binary is so commonly not discussed to a point where even those within the community show little to no support, claiming those suffering from body dysphoria to a flexible degree are either attempting to denounce privilege or gain attention.
2. Several recommendations were developed by the attendees of Trans Student's Conference regarding improvements to the current system. Those with the clearest consensus were:
 - a) A minimum of four options (man, woman, something else, prefer not to say) should be used in all legal, social and equalities-monitoring contexts.
 - b) Legal recognition of gender should be based upon a self-declaration process, similar to the use of deed-polls to change ones name (and the Gender Recognition Panel abolished).


Conference resolves

1. Ensuring any university training involving the LGBT*+ community knowledge teaches not only about the majority groups but those who are queer, agender, non-binary and intersex.
2. Ensuring the NUS meeting or any university community links creates a friendly environment for those who are not under a gender binary where they would receive the same voice and support as any other member of the LGBT
3. To campaign for the recommendations (above) to be implements by Student Unions, clubs and societies, FE and HE institutions, and government.

Motion 407: "Even the largest avalanche is triggered by small things."

Conference believes

1. FE institutions and Colleges are an integral part of the education experience for many students including apprentices.
2. In the LGBT movement and the NUS LGBT Campaign, not enough is currently being done to support and help develop potential LGBT Officers/Presidents and societies in those institutions.
3. Access to information and local LGBT groups have not been facilitated and needs to change.

- 
4. Many FE institutions, Colleges and small & specialised institutions do not even have LGBT Officers/Presidents and therefore do not have a society on campus.
 5. Such institutions will then find it hard to maintain vibrant and sustainable campaigns on their campuses which leads to poor engagement with LGBT students within their institutions.
 6. Compared to University, FE and College LGBT students face different experiences and barriers through their education.
 7. On top of this, apprentices face further challenges due to their unique environment and status.

Conference further believes

1. Historically, work done for Universities are recycled and replicated to try and extend to FE and College institutions but one model does not fit all and this approach fails.
2. Students who are LGBT Officers/Presidents face many challenges whether from students or staff when facilitating meetings, activities and events.
3. It is vital that LGBT students have safe spaces facilitated to meet like-minded students in their institution no matter what you study or what your student status is perceived by others.
4. In order for this to happen, LGBT students/Officers/Presidents need to have support from their respected student associations/unions and the institution itself.
5. The NUS LGBT Campaign and the FE Campaign need to ensure that such issues are not ignored and that our membership is not pushed and silenced in this movement.


Conference resolves

1. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to create an up-to-date FE and College toolkit that focuses on creating and developing societies while offering support and advice on how to engage 'hard to reach' groups including apprentices.
2. To help create working relationships and support networks for FE institutions and Colleges with other institutions and local LGBT groups in the same area.
3. Campaign briefings and projects that the NUS LGBT Campaign produce must be relevant and have sections dedicated to FE and College institutions; or where appropriate have briefings made that are specific for those institutions regarding the work the campaign wishes to do.
4. Mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to implement Activist Training Days across the country that are specific to FE and College institutions.

Motion 210: Say No to Pinkwashing

Conference believes

1. NUS LGBT campaign believes in and strives for LGBT+ equality in all societies to ensure LGBT+ individuals do not face discrimination.

- 
2. Israel currently illegally occupies territories which consist of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, much of the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and, until 1982, the Sinai Peninsula.
 3. 'Pinkwashing' is the phenomenon in which Israel attempts to deliberately conceal the violations of the human rights of Palestinian people against the backdrop of the promotion of progressive gay rights in Israel.
 4. Israel began its pinkwashing campaign in 2005 which sought to depict Israel as "relevant and modern". This was initially in the form of a marketing plan which then expanded to the \$90 million branding of Tel Aviv as "an international gay vacation destination". [1]
 5. Aeyal Gross, a professor of law at Tel Aviv University, argues that "gay rights have essentially become a public-relations tool," even though "conservative and especially religious politicians remain fiercely homophobic."²⁸.

Conference further believes

1. Pinkwashing manipulates the hard-won gains of Israel's gay community, and in addition to this, it also ignores the existence and efforts of Palestinian gay-rights organizations. Homosexuality was decriminalized in the West Bank since the 1950s, when anti-sodomy laws imposed under British colonial influence were removed from the Jordanian penal code, which Palestinians follow.
2. NUS currently has pro-Palestinian policy in place: NUS NEC (National Executive Council) passed a motion to support and endorse the BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement in August 2014. The BDS campaign calls for sanctions to be placed on Israel until it "complies with international law and Palestinian rights"²⁹.
3. The use of LGBT+ rights to promote Israel as "progressive" in order to deliberately conceal their violation of international law and Human Rights abuses does not help further progressive discourse on how to support the Palestinian people.

Conference resolves

1. To condemn and not celebrate Israel's human rights record.
2. To condemn the use of pinkwashing as and where appropriate, as Israel should not be using LGBT+ rights to cover up human rights abuses.
3. To work with Palestinian LGBT+ rights organisations such as Al-Qaws, Aswat and Palestinian Queers for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions to actively pledge solidarity and further condemn pinkwashing.
4. For NUS LGBT campaign to educate its members on the dangers of pinkwashing.

Motion 209: Government healthcare cuts

²⁸ http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/23/opinion/pinkwashing-and-israels-use-of-gays-as-a-messaging-tool.html?_r=0

²⁹ <http://www.cherwell.org/news/world/2014/08/04/nus-adopts-support-for-boycott-of-israel>
<http://electronicintifada.net/blogs/ali-abunimah/dont-single-out-homosexuality-response-israel-blackmail-revelations-palestinians>



Conference believes


1. Cuts to NHS funding as a result of government policy have severely endangered the work of the NHS.
2. Transitional healthcare is in crisis, with patients newly referred to GICs facing waiting lists of over a year, and long delays between surgical referrals and surgery dates.
3. Cuts in mental healthcare provision have meant that, for example, many patients requiring inpatient stay are placed in beds hundreds of miles away from home.
4. Cuts in sexual health provision are limiting GPs' ability to provide sexual health screening.
5. Cuts in social care have reduced many disabled people's ability to lead independent lives, meaning that many with 'low' or 'moderate' needs receive no care at all and those with 'substantial' or 'critical' needs often receive insufficient care.
6. Many other parts of the NHS are unable to provide the services that patients require due to government cuts.
7. These cuts disproportionately affect LGBT people, especially disabled and working-class LGBT people and trans people.
8. There is enough money in our society to provide well-resourced healthcare services.

Conference resolves

1. To publicly condemn and campaign against all proposals to cut healthcare funding, especially in the run-up to the General Election.
2. To campaign instead for a drastic increase in healthcare funding.
3. To campaign for healthcare provision to include full democratic control of transitional healthcare services by trans people, and an 'informed consent' model to provision of transitional healthcare based on the transitioning individual's own requirements.
4. This healthcare provision to be funded by taxing the rich and their businesses and by taking the banks under democratic control.
5. To publicly condemn the closure of the Independent Living Fund and campaign for its reinstatement.
6. Our campaigning to involve protest and direct action by students to put pressure on election candidates and parties over these issues.
7. To reach out to the rest of the student movement, trade unions, disabled and LGBTQ activist groups to join us in this campaign.

Motion 208: End the whitewashing of the Stonewall Riots

Conference believes

- 
1. June 28th 2015 will mark the 46th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, which is widely regarded as a catalytic event for the beginning of the Gay rights movement in the USA³⁰.
 2. The Stonewall Riots consisted of a considerable Trans presence, including the prominent Trans Woman of Colour Sylvia Rivera, who was said to have “thrown the second brick”.
 3. In the aftermath of the riots, intense discussions took place in the gay community, and the Gay Liberation Front was established.
 4. Sylvia Rivera played a pivotal part in the Gay rights movement in the USA; she was a founding member of the Gay Liberation Front and the Gay Activists Alliance, and helped found Street Transgender Action Revolutionaries (STAR) with her friend and fellow TWoC, Marsha P Johnson.
 5. Despite her contribution to the Gay rights movement, Sylvia Rivera was not treated fairly by others in the movement. According to the American Academic and writer Michael Bronski, Rivera was banned from New York's Gay & Lesbian Community Center for several years in the mid-nineties, because, on a cold winter's night, she aggressively demanded that the Center take care of poor and homeless queer youth.

Conference further believes

1. Motion 307 that was passed at NUS LGBT Conference 2014 failed to mention or acknowledge Sylvia was a Woman of Colour (as well as being Trans).
2. Negating or refusing to acknowledge the role that notable Trans Women of Colour played in the Gay Rights movement is an active form of white-washing LGBT history.
3. Whitewashing a white-passing person of colour is an act of violence and it is highly problematic to bring into question her identity as a Latina woman.
4. NUS LGBT campaign currently struggles to engage with Black LGBT students (where Black refers to those of African, Asian or Caribbean descent), and white-washing the history of the LGBT movement may act to further alienate students and delegates.
5. NUS LGBT campaign strives to be intersectional, so erasing a part of Sylvia's identity is not conducive to our goal of being truly intersectional.

Conference resolves

1. To acknowledge the role Sylvia and Marsha P Johnson played in the Stonewall Riots and the Gay Liberation Movement as a Trans Woman of Colour.
2. To condemn the promotion of any white-washed narratives of the Stonewall Riots as and where appropriate.
3. To suggest Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P Johnson as a prominent role model to be highlighted by Students' Unions during Black History Month and or LGBT History Month.

³⁰ Gay Liberation specifically refers to the period of the movement in the 60s and 70s, during which "gay" was commonly used to refer to all LGBT people rather than having the more specific meaning it has today.



Policy Passed at LGBT+ Conference 2019

100 Education Zone

Motion 101: Decolonise

Conference Believes

1. That contemporary British society is a product of its colonial past. Our economy as it exists today was built on the exploitation, occupation and decimation of populations across the globe.
2. That British political, social, and educational institutions are all built upon both the material gains of colonialism and the ideologies that were developed to justify colonial endeavours. In this context, Universities are inherently colonial institutions.
3. That the curriculum as it exists today is inherently political. Though it is commonly argued that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects are 'apolitical', even they have a history of being founded on racist, colonial principles and being used to justify colonial endeavours.
4. That European history and European achievements are centred in the curriculum, and are presented as the more important or more valuable than others.

Conference Further Believes

1. That we should transform the institution of education to challenge rather than reinforce oppression.
2. That a truly liberated education should be democratic and student-led, and should elevate the voices of those who have been historically marginalised and continue to face oppression.
3. That colonialism is an LGBT+ issue. Historically, homophobia and transphobia was imposed on many cultures by European colonisers, and to this day, racist border controls disproportionately affect LGBT+ asylum seekers. We oppose the Home Office's dehumanising need for LGBT+ asylum seekers to provide visual evidence of their gender or sexuality.
4. That in the effort to develop the field of 'queer studies', we should de-centre European frameworks of knowledge production, instead adopting an intersectional, decolonial approach to understanding gender and sexuality.
5. That we should actively promote internationalism in the most radical, decolonial sense. In line with active NUS policy (Motion 210: "Say No to Pinkwashing")³¹, we should actively support campaigns against apartheid, colonialism, and oppression across the globe.
6. That existing NUS policy (Motion 201: "Commonwealth Decriminalisation Campaign")³² provides a colonial framework of promoting internationalism by reference to the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth is an inherently colonial institution with overt links to Britain's colonial past, and we should not promote internationalism on these terms.
7. That nationalism is an inherently violent and racist ideology, which is used to justify colonialism, racist border controls, detention centres, and more.

³¹ NUS LGBT+ Conference Live Policy 2016-19, P125. <https://www.nusconnect.org.uk/policy/our-policies>

³² NUS LGBT+ Conference Live Policy 2016-19, P98. <https://www.nusconnect.org.uk/policy/our-policies>



Conference Resolves

1. To publicly express support for and to actively support campaigns for a free, liberated education.
2. To actively support campaigns for Universities to divest from fossil fuels, the arms trade, and violent, oppressive states.
3. To support eco-activism that centres the global South, which will suffer the greatest impacts of climate change.
4. To actively work with the NUS Black Students' Campaign to decolonise the curriculum, especially with regards to knowledge production and understanding of gender and sexuality.
5. To actively work with the NUS Black Students' Campaign to decolonise education more broadly by developing materials and resources in political education for academics and students across the UK.
6. To actively work with the NUS Black Students' Campaign to explore the concept of decolonisation and what it involves, such as demanding accountability from the UK government and supporting calls for reparations.



200 Society and Citizenship Zone

Motion 201: Queers deserve spaces to make poor life choices too

Conference Believes

1. LGBT+ nightlife spaces were established as a result of LGBT+ people fearing homophobic, biphobic and transphobic harassment in public spaces. The freedom to socialise and be visibly LGBT+, to flirt, to be surrounded by LGBT+ culture, were things fought for in a society which tried to shut out LGBT+ people from mainstream existence.
2. The Stonewall Inn was one such institution. Owned by the Mafia, the relationship between the police and the Mafia reduced the regularity of police raids. However, this didn't stop police brutality (which was especially along racialised, classist, transmisogynistic and anti-sex worker lines) and resulted in the Stonewall Riots.
3. These challenges are reflected in a lot of the contemporary challenges that LGBT+ night spaces face today, including racism, a hostile security culture, lack of provisions for those consuming drugs or alcohol and a lack of access for working class people.
4. In addition, a culture of assumed consent and thus sexual harassment is concerning widespread.

Conference Further Believes

1. Despite their flaws, LGBT+ nightlife is an essential part of a thriving LGBT+ community for many people.
2. Safe night spaces for trans and gender non-conforming people are limited to a handful of independently-ran nights located in the "gay capitals" of London, Manchester and Brighton.
3. The use of illegal drugs on nights out should not be criminalised by our spaces. The development of provisions such as those provided by drugs testing initiative The Loop should be widely available.


Conference Resolves

1. To advocate and help lobby for drugs testing in LGBT+ night spaces and venues.
2. To support community campaigns to protect LGBT+ night spaces from closure, especially highlighting the disproportionate closures of lesbian and queer women's venues.
3. To do this without compromising on our critique of the transphobia, ableism, racism and toxic consent culture often present within these spaces.

Motion 202: Bash Back

Conference Believes

1. Recent years have presented the LGBT+ community with a political landscape that is increasingly hostile towards trans and non-binary people, especially trans women and trans youth accessing transition-related healthcare.

- 
2. Transphobia and transmisogyny has been spouted from all angles, from anti-trans demonstrators at London Pride parade 2018¹ to editorials and op-eds in liberal news publications².
 3. TERFs are becoming increasingly confident and are adopting tactics used by fascists and nationalists, such as doxxing³, joining with the religious right and stirring up the demonisation of trans people on the street.⁴

Conference Further Believes

1. An explicitly radical and queer student response to both fascism and TERF ideology in the UK is urgently needed.
2. This response and its critiques of TERF ideology must go beyond rhetoric around an individual's feelings. It must effectively tear apart biological essentialism (rooted in colonialist ideology) and provide a material analysis of the far-right's transphobia and transmisogyny.
3. To be blunt, we must not be afraid to call a spade a spade. When we see TERFs using fascist tactics, we should not shy away from highlighting these similarities and the similar ways in which TERFs and fascists want to socially engineer trans people out of public life.
4. While NUS technically has an Anti-racism and Anti-fascism (ARAF) subcommittee, there has been limited tangible output from the committee to grassroots anti-fascist student activists.

Conference Resolves

1. To produce and distribute free political education resources to LGBT+ students across the UK exploring how we fight TERF and fascist ideology on our campuses and streets.
2. To materially support the organising of student anti-fascist and anti-TERF initiatives where possible.
3. To not share a platform with anti-trans individuals or groups who are (associated with groups) who use fascist tactics.

References

- 1 - <https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/anti-trans-protests-london-pride-transgender-transphobia-terf-lgbt-feminist-a8448521.html>
- 2 - <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/02/guardian-editorial-response-transgender-rights-uk>
- 3 - https://www.transadvocate.com/my-experience-with-mental-health-and-terfs_n_12701.htm
- 4- <https://www.facebook.com/fairplayforwomen/photos/a.431621000581382/493320747744740/?type=3&theater>



Motion 203: Solidarity with the marginalised people of Brazil

Conference Believes

1. Jair Bolsonaro was elected as President of Brazil in 2018, and took office at the start of 2019.
2. He's been noted as having far-right politics, and has made a number of outrageous statements including "I'd rather have a dead son than a gay son".
3. He wants to further militarise Brazil's police and carry out a series of authoritarian policies that have serious consequences for the most marginalised people in Brazil.
Brazil has one of the highest murder rates for trans people in the world, with black and indigenous trans women especially at risk.
4. In his first week in office, Bolsonaro has stripped removed protecting LGBT rights as a responsibility of the human rights ministry.
5. In addition, he has looked at removing material support for black and indigenous Brazilians, including scrapping financial support and protected land.

Conference Further Believes

1. That the movement for LGBT+ liberation must be internationalist without being paternalistic or neo-colonialist. The best groups of people to set the direction of liberation movements in a particular area are those directly affected.
2. That we must stand with LGBT+ Brazilians (as well as black and indigenous Brazilians, Brazilian women etc.) in fighting the likely erosion of their rights and the rise of fascism in Brazil.

Conference Resolves

1. To support demonstrations raising awareness of the likely negative actions of the Bolsonaro regime.
2. To support and build relationships with Brazilians organisations such as Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas, Bissexuais, Travestis e Transexuais and União Nacional dos Estudantes.
3. In line with pinkwashing policy, to push back against the normalisation of the Bolsonaro regime even if Pride events still go ahead.
4. To support organisations such as Rainbow Road, who give direct assistance to those aiming to seek asylum.



300 Strong and Active Unions Zone

Motion 301: Embedding intersex liberation into our campaign

Conference Believes

1. Intersex is an umbrella term used for people who are born with variations of sex characteristics, which do not always fit with society's perception of male or female bodies. Intersex is not the same as gender identity or sexual orientation.
2. While some intersex people define as trans and/or LGBT+, this is not a universal experience.
3. NUS LGBT+ has never produced or distributed any intersex-specific materials or briefings.
4. Intersex people can face stigmatisation and discrimination from birth, particularly when intersex variation is visible.

Conference Further Believes

1. Bodily autonomy and the right to self determination have historically been at the heart of the struggle for LGBT+ liberation.
2. The NUS LGBT+ campaign must do more in solidarity with our intersex siblings.

Conference Resolves

1. To affirm our stance against the severe human rights violations enacted against intersex people, including non-consensual surgical interventions, done at birth in order to "normalise" their body without consent.
2. To collaborate with NUS Trans campaign on a consultation with our self-defining intersex members to highlight their needs going forward.
3. To, where possible, collaborate with Intersex organisations and activists within the UK throughout this process.
4. To commemorate intersex day of solidarity, also known as intersex day of awareness, and promote intersex awareness, such as on Intersex Awareness Day
5. To produce guidance for LGBT+ societies to mirror this work to embed intersex liberation at a local level.
6. Join the national campaign for greater social acceptance, more widespread understanding of issues bodily autonomy and the recognition of the human rights of intersex people



400 Welfare and Student Rights' Zone

Motion 401: Putting housing back on the agenda

Conference Believes

1. Housing is a fundamental area of inequality for many LGBT+ people, as we are more likely to experience homelessness and more likely to have an unstable living situation than our cisgender and heterosexual counterparts¹.
2. The majority of university students will live in student accommodation in their first year of study. This first year can be an especially difficult time for many reasons, but the additional stress of potential discrimination and navigating single-sex living spaces can have a huge negative impact on the wellbeing of students.

Conference Further Believes

1. LGBT+ only accommodation is not "segregation". It is entirely opt-in and allows LGBT+ students ease of mind when accessing housing in their first year.
2. The introduction of LGBT+ only halls at the University of Sheffield ² was an incredibly positive step towards challenging housing inequality for LGBT+ students.

Conference Resolves

1. To run a campaign advocating for the creation of LGBT+ only accommodation at universities across the UK where there is demand from students.
2. To provide LGBT+ awareness training to halls providers both locally and nationally, with a specific emphasis on the needs and experiences especially vulnerable students. These include but are not limited to trans people, international students, closeted students and people of colour.


1 - https://www.stonewall.org.uk/sites/default/files/lgbt_in_britain_home_and_communities.pdf

2 - <https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2018/05/25/sheffield-university-to-offer-students-lgbt-only-accommodation/>

Motion 402: Stand Up for Trans Healthcare

Conference Believes

1. The Gender Identity Development Service (GIDS) is the only public trans healthcare provider in the UK that specialises in the treatment of trans young people.¹
2. In 2017/18 there were 2,519 referrals received at GIDS - a 25% increase compared to the previous year.²
3. Gender Identity Clinics (GICs) are unable to cope with the demand for appointments with waiting list times stretching to over two years for a first appointment. ³

- 
4. In order to receive the appropriate healthcare such as hormones, hair removal, or surgery, service users often have to fulfill stereotypical and cissexist expectations of manhood or womanhood. This disproportionately affects non-binary people, disabled people and people of colour.
 5. With private healthcare providers such as GenderGP and GenderCare often prescribing hormone replacement therapy (HRT) to bridge the gap while trans people are on the NHS waiting lists, there's often an issue with GPs either being unwilling or not knowing how to issue prescriptions under shared care agreements.
 6. NHS England's Board made a public commitment at the NHS Citizen Assembly in 2014 to address problems experienced by the transgender and non-binary communities within the NHS ⁴
 7. NHS England introduced a 12-week consultation on specialised Gender Identity Services for adults (17 and above) in 2017. ⁶
 8. Action for Trans Health is an organisation which provides direct support in the forms of grants to trans people who want to access healthcare and other essentials.

Conference Further Believes


1. Trans and non-binary people should not be expected to conform to gender stereotypes in order to access treatment.
2. Transition-related healthcare in the UK should move to a model of informed consent, giving trans people autonomy over their own healthcare.
3. Bridging prescriptions for hormones should be widely used if requested while trans people are on the long waiting lists for GICs, including accepting shared care agreements between private healthcare services and GPs.
4. Other transition-related procedures such as breast augmentation, facial feminisation surgery, body contouring, and electrolysis should be covered by the NHS. Them not currently being suggests a lack of concern for trans women and transfeminine non-binary people.

Conference Resolves

1. To re-affirm the NUS LGBT+ Campaign's stance on trans and non-binary healthcare.
2. To re-affirm the NUS LGBT+ Campaign's affiliation to Action for Trans Health.
3. To create a resource to help local student activists lobby their local services for improvements to transition-related healthcare services.
4. To lobby Healthcare Education England, the British Medical Association, GP Federations and Clinical Commissioning Groups for training and awareness-raising for all GPs and Royal Colleges around treatment for trans and non-binary people, shared care arrangements, and referrals to GICs.
5. To campaign for the transition-related procedures mentioned above to be covered on the NHS.

References

- 1 - <http://gids.nhs.uk/about-us#who-do-we-see>
- 2 - <https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/about-us/news/stories/gids-referrals-increase-201718/>

- 
- 3 - <https://meanshappyy.com/gender-identity-clinics-waiting-lists/>
 - 4 - <http://www.nhscitizen.org.uk/assembly-meeting/>
 - 5 - <https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2015/09/symposium-report.pdf>
 - 6 - https://www.engage.england.nhs.uk/survey/gender-identity-services-for-adults/user_uploads/gender-services-consultation-report-updated-equality-impact-assessment-v2.pdf



500 Rules Revision Zone

Motion 501: QTIPoC Subcommittee

Conference Believes

- 1, The definition of QTIPoC specified 501 uses the phrase "Middle Eastern" rather than "Arab" which could allow white people to define into the caucus.
2. Motion 501 reaffirmed the status of the QTIPoC subcommittee, a committee that is joint between the LGBT+ and Black Students campaign
3. At NUS LGBT conference in 2014, motion 202 entitled "Black LGBT sub-committee- creating safer autonomous space" was passed into policy
4. The motion resolved to create a Black LGBT sub-committee that consisted of 3 Black LGBT individuals, with 1 open place, 1 reserved for a Black LGBT woman who would both be elected at NUS LGBT conference. The remaining place would be elected in the LGBT+ caucus at NUS Black Students' Conference
5. The motion was intended to increase Black LGBT representation within NUS LGBT+ campaign's structures as well as providing a safe autonomous space

Conference Further Believes

1. The QTIPoC subcommittee members elected at NUS LGBT+ conference should be full members of the National Committee

Conference Resolves

- 1.To replace:

"26. QTIPoC Students Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who define as African, Middle Eastern, Afro-Caribbean or Asian descent; and/or descended from the indigenous populations of the Americas and/or the South Pacific and/or the existing QTIPoC Students' Representatives."

With

"26. QTIPoC Students Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who define as African, Arab, Caribbean or Asian descent; and/or descended from the indigenous populations of the Americas and/or the South Pacific and/or the existing QTIPoC Students' Representatives."

2. To Add:

92 k. "One (1) Open Place representative and one (1) Women's place representative on the QTIPoC subcommittee, elected by and from the entire QTIPoC Caucus, and then the self-defining women of the QTIPoC Caucus



Policy Lapse

Motion 101: A full time paid NUS Trans Officer and an autonomous NUS Trans Liberation Campaign

Conference believes


1. In 2005 the 'T' in NUS LGBT+ was added to the definition of the remit of the NUS LGBT+ campaign.
2. A motion was submitted to NUS Trans Conference 2015 to create a full time paid NUS Trans Officer and an autonomous Trans liberation campaign and this motion passed unanimously.
3. At National Conference 2016 NUS will take forward a review of its governance and financial model, informed by a commissioned review called: 'A New Settlement' and a further wide consultation with students' unions, and bring an outline of proposals to improve the costs and benefits for NUS' affiliated members.
4. That the first NUS Trans conference was held on 9th December 2015.
5. That this conference did not have the sovereign power to pass policy, and all motions passed will have to be ratified at LGBT+ conference.
6. That Trans conference passed a motion to create 'A full time paid NUS Trans Officer and an autonomous NUS Trans Liberation Campaign'.

Conference further believes

1. Thanks to the great work of many LGBT+ activists the LGB+ community has made vast progress in achieving equality and liberation for LGB+ people in law and society over the last few years. However, the same cannot be said for the trans community.
2. In the UK (and the rest of the world) the trans community still faces marginalisation, discrimination and prejudice in regard to legal recognition, equal marriage, health care and equal rights to name but a few examples.
3. The NUS LGBT+ campaign has two elected officers. This is due to the historical gender bias within the LGBT+ movement and NUS championing gender balancing across all leadership roles within NUS. Thus one of the LGBT+ officer places is reserved specifically for those who define as women within the LGBT+ campaign.
4. That the autonomy of liberation groups/ campaigns should be respected.

Conference resolves

1. To mandate both the NUS LGBT+ Officers and NUS LGBT+ Campaign to actively campaign FOR a full time and paid NUS Trans Officer and a separate NUS Trans liberation campaign.
2. To support the decision made by the NUS Trans Students' Conference by submitting a motion to NUS National Conference 2016 to amend rules and articles of NUS UK to include the following:

- 
- a. To create a full time paid NUS Trans Officer who shall sit on the NEC with an additional NEC second place.
 - b. That the NUS Trans NEC second place NEC must be gender-balanced.
 - c. To create an autonomous NUS Trans Liberation campaign separate and from the NUS LGBT+ campaign.
 - d. That the NUS Trans officer, and additional second place on NEC, shall be elected at the NUS Trans Conference.
 - e. That the NUS Trans Conference must also elect a committee of volunteers to form the NUS Trans Campaign National Committee.
3. That if the motion to create a full time paid NUS Trans Officer and an autonomous NUS Trans Liberation Campaign passes at NUS LGBT+ conference and NUS National conference 2016 this shall become part of and implemented within the NUS governance review.
 4. That the first NUS Trans Officer, NEC place and committee shall be elected at NUS Trans Conference in 2016/17 ready to take office in July 2017.
 5. That a reserved NUS LGBT+ officer place for women within the campaign remains and that the creation of a full time paid NUS Trans officer must not supersede this.
 6. To support Trans students to achieve the goal of 'A full time paid NUS Trans Officer and an autonomous NUS Trans Liberation Campaign' in any way possible.

Motion 102: FE and HE academic system name & title change

Conference believes

1. If an applicant changes their name before or during their studies before they have completed their award and final results have been published, they must provide the University with documentary evidence of the name change.
2. Currently, universities require applicants to apply using the name on their passport, birth certificate, or marriage certificate.
3. As of August 2015, the Oxford English Dictionary has officially added "Mx" as an honorific, which is already accepted by government departments, councils, high street banks, Royal Mail and driving licences in UK.

Conference further believes

1. Many students are unable to change their name legally, due to personal circumstances, such as religion or transphobic families
2. Students in FE institutions often have a difficult time trying to change their name, as often they require two names on the system – the name they want to be referred as, and their birth name for when letters are sent home
3. Mx is a gender-neutral prefix that allows non-binary students who do not identify with either the male or female gender to have their gender identity recognised



Conference resolves

1. Allow students in all FE and HE institutions to have a preferred name for academic registries
2. Encourage all HE and FE institutions to recognise the existence of non-binary students and allow students to choose the name (birth or preferred) in which letters are sent home to families)
3. Add mx as a gender-neutral title option for all HE and FE institutions in the UK.

Motion 103: Trans and Non-Binary Awareness in the Classroom

Conference believes

1. Many members of teaching staff at both HE and FE institutions are not aware of the issues faced by trans (including non-binary) students.
2. This lack of staff awareness can result in classes not being a safe space for trans (including non-binary) students.
3. As a direct result of institutional policies, many cis-normative students remain unaware of what might be considered inappropriate behaviour towards trans (including non-binary) students.

Conference further believes

1. Creating a safe space for trans (including non-binary) students in classrooms should ultimately be the responsibility of teaching staff.
2. Staff should receive training on specific issues relating to trans and (including non-binary) students, especially the use of appropriate pronouns and names.


Conference resolves

1. Mandate all students' unions to work alongside academic and staff union representatives to review current levels of staff awareness of trans (including non-binary) awareness.
2. Campaign to ensure all FE and HE institutions provide appropriate staff training on Trans Awareness and in particular the use of correct pronouns and names.

Motion 104: Encourage the addition of a Gender Identity Clinic in Wales

Conference believes

1. According to a 2012 study for the country's NHS, it is estimated there are over 31,300 trans people in Wales, yet there are significant problems relating to adequate healthcare.
2. Currently, if a trans person in Wales wishes to medically transition, their GP will only refer them to Charing Cross, which is in London.
3. In England, under the NHS Constitution, patients 'have the right to access certain services commissioned by NHS bodies within maximum waiting times, or for the NHS to take all reasonable steps to offer a range of suitable alternative providers if this is not possible'. The maximum waiting time for



gender identity services is 18 weeks, known as 18 Week Referral to Treatment (RTT). The waiting list for Charing Cross as of September 2014 is 56 weeks, which greatly exceeds this.

Conference further believes

1. Wales is currently the only one of the four countries in the United Kingdom that does not have a Gender Identity Clinic.
2. For many trans people, getting to London is not possible due to inaccessibility – either due to other existing health or financial issues
3. Due to the issues around getting to London and the waiting list times, many trans people self-medicate.

Conference resolves

1. Encourage students to campaign on campus for a Gender Identity Clinic in Wales, to boost awareness in the upcoming to the election
2. Encourage all students eligible to vote in the next Welsh Assembly Election
3. Encourage all MPs in Welsh constituencies to vote for a Gender Identity Clinic in the next Welsh Assembly Election
4. Campaign for Assembly Members in the next session of the Assembly to establish a Gender Identity Clinic in Wales.


Motion 107: Add gender-neutral toilet and changing room facilities to all FE and HE institutions

Conference believes

1. The 'Response and imputation rates' report (2001) found that 0.4% of Census respondents failed to give a binary response to 'sex' in some way, which now accounts for 224,632 people identifying as non-binary.
2. A national survey by GLSEN has found that 75% of transgender youth feel unsafe at school and 59% of trans students have been denied access to restrooms consistent with their gender identity.
3. At a lot of institutions, there are only male, female and disabled toilets, leading non-binary – as well as many binary trans – students to either choose between choosing a gendered toilets, and experiencing discrimination, or using the disabled toilet, which has many implications.

Conference further believes

1. Gender-neutral toilets reduce the discriminative experiences that trans people face while in their institutions, as they are able to go to the bathroom without fear of hate or judgment, based on their gender

- 
2. Being forced to use a disabled toilet further perpetuates the idea that being transgender is a disability, as well as reducing the possible facilities for those who are disabled, as currently this is the only alternative for non-binary and many binary trans student who are in fear of harassment

Conference resolves

1. Encourage all HE and FE institutions to have and campaign for gender-neutral toilets on campus
2. Encourage all HE and FE institutions to challenge transphobia and gender-based discrimination that takes place, especially in bathroom facilities.

Motion 110: Introduce a trans-inclusive sports policy to all HE and FE institutions

Conference believes

1. Many sporting bodies, such as the British Universities & College Sports, do not have their own policy in place, which covers the inclusion of trans and intersex athletes, and instead adopt the policies of other organisations. These organisations may similarly have no policy regarding inclusion and so trans people are frequently unsure if they are allowed to participate.
2. International Olympic Committee guidelines currently only govern the inclusion of transsexual athletes and no official guidance exists pertaining to trans people who do not fall into the category of transsexual.
3. Current NHS criteria require that trans people show consistent identification with their preferred gender in order to receive or continue to receive treatment. Participating on a team that was not for their preferred gender could thus be used as evidence to exclude them from medical treatment.
4. NGBs (National Governing Bodies) are the organisations that are in charge of their respective rules in a particular sport.
5. BUCS (British Universities and Colleges Sport) is the organisation that facilitates and governs sport for Colleges and Universities
6. BUCS has chosen to pass all responsibility of trans inclusion to the respective NGBs
7. Under the Equality Act 2010, NGBs are required to let Trans people participate after they have met criteria prescribed by the NGB.
8. Knowing your eligibility to participate in BUCS competitions is currently arduous and demeaning
9. Most NGBs do not have clear policies on their websites (e.g Netball, Korfbal, Lacrosse...)
10. Many NGBs who do have policies require Gender confirmation surgery
11. Some NGBs have specific (arbitrary) time requirements from date achieving certain criteria (eg GCS), of up to 4 years, which is often years after people have left education
12. Many trans people do not want to have surgery
13. Many trans people are unable to have surgery
14. Most trans people are not able to participate in competitive sport



Conference further believes


1. Due to the nature of sports competitions being either for men or women, many non-binary students feel excluded as they are either forced to pick a gender, or to not play at all.
2. The culture surrounding sports is still deeply transphobic, even today. The effects of this are clearly seen with many being driven away from sport and some experiencing transphobia first-hand.
3. Most policies that allow trans people to compete in sport require them to provide 'proof' of their current medical status and in many cases this process is not clearly defined
4. Trans people should not be limited to non-competitive play
5. Self-definition should be the only criteria to participate in gendered sports
6. The extensive additional rules for trans women to participate is inherently trans misogynistic.
7. The Equality Act 2010 does not do enough to protect trans people from NGBs
8. NGBs need to recognise many more genders than two
9. Trans people's bodies are theirs to choose what they do with.
10. Any equality policy that allows trans exclusion and doesn't take self-definition as the only definition is inherently flawed and should be challenged.
11. Any form of medical intervention (HRT, GCS) should not be a part of requirements to play sport
12. NGBs (National Governing Bodies) should be covering any additional costs trans people incur when participating (eg blood tests).
13. Until this does occur AUs, SUs or universities/colleges should be covering the costs.

Conference resolves

1. Introduce a trans-inclusive sports policy to all HE and FE institutions
2. Ensure that there are a range of sports that are gender-neutral, which recognise non-binary genders
3. To lobby NGBs to have self-definition be the only definition to participate.
4. To lobby NGBs to have clear non-binary inclusive guidelines easily accessible for non-binary people to participate.
5. To lobby BUCS to publicly lobby NGBs to have self-definition be the only definition to participate.
6. To lobby BUCS to publicly lobby NGBs to have clear non-binary inclusive guidelines for trans people to participate.
7. To work on liberation representation within the democratic structures of BUCS
8. To lobby NGBs to cover any additional costs trans people incur when participating (eg blood tests).
9. To encourage AUs, SUs or universities/colleges to cover the costs until NGBs cover the costs.

Motion 111: Supporting SU Officers and activists opposing transphobia

Conference believes

- 
1. That SU officers and student activists are often the first line in opposing transphobia within their institutions.
 2. That, as with the recent case of Germaine Greer being invited to speak at Cardiff University, this opposition can lead to these officers being subjected to a barrage of hatred and threats.
 3. That NUS has a duty to offer help and support to SU officers seeking to oppose Transphobia within their institutions.

Conference further believes

1. That no SU officer or student seeking to oppose transphobia or being subjected to abuse for doing so should have to do so in isolation.
2. That the actions of these transphobes can have a seriously detrimental effect on the mental health, personal and academic lives of student activists whether they are SU officers or not.

Conference resolves

1. Create guidance for SU's in supporting SU officers and student activists who find themselves under attack for opposing transphobia.
2. Look to create guidance for Student activists and SU officers in how to respond to such attacks (including such things as seeking support and logging threats received to be passed onto appropriate agencies)
3. Mandate Committee to formally and, where appropriate, publically offer support and solidarity to SU officers and Student activists who come under attack for opposing transphobia. Including, but not limited to; campus visits and letters/petitions of support


Motion 112: Pronouns Introduction Policy

Conference believes

1. Terms used:
2. Pronoun: noun
3. a word that can function as a noun phrase used by itself and that refers either to the participants in the discourse (e.g. I, you) or to someone or something mentioned elsewhere in the discourse (e.g. she, it, this)
4. Misgender: verb
5. present participle: misgendering
6. refer to (someone, especially a transgender person) using a word, especially a pronoun or form of address, that does not correctly reflect the gender with which they identify.

Conference further believes

1. It is important to respect a person's choice of name and gender pronouns.
2. Everyone has the right to be able to self-define and identify
3. This right should be respected by all who address them

- 
4. Students should not risk being misgendered when participating in NUS events
 5. Students should not have to risk misgendering their peers when participating in NUS events
 6. We cannot create safe spaces without proactively challenging our existing environments and taking action to make change, this includes challenging pronoun assumptions
 7. To not have a pronoun inclusion policy is to uphold structural and institutional transphobia within our spaces
 8. A pronoun introduction policy is an active way of putting measures in place to ensure that all students, no matter what their trans-status or gender identity is, can safely and actively participate in NUS activities.

Conference resolves

1. Use the following practice at all NUS events:
 - a. Pronouns will be respected
 - b. Once introduced, anyone who then refuses to respect these names or pronouns will be seen as not being in accordance with NUS regulations
 - c. Appropriate action will then be taken to ensure the safety of attendees.
2. These practices will be part of a Pronouns Introduction policy, to be written by NUS and mandated by this motion.


Motion 201: Estrangement should be high on the agenda

Conference believes

1. The New Starts report indicates that there were 9,338 students in England, Wales and Northern Ireland officially recognised by Student Loan Company as 'estranged' in 2013-14.
2. In 2008 NUS conducted research into the experiences of estranged students and Student Finance which led to drastic changes being made to the evidence required to be granted estranged status by Student Finance.
3. Estranged Students are currently entitled to the maximum financial support from Student Finance and may be entitled to additional bursaries if they are available at their university or college.
4. Letting agents and Landlords often require a financial guarantor in the form of a parent or guardian in order for students to rent a property. Without this financial backing estranged students often have to pay all their rent up front or find accommodation that does require a financial guarantor.
5. Estranged students are more likely to experience poor mental health and experience higher dropout rates than their non-estranged peers.
6. Studies have shown that LGBT+ and BME students more likely to experience estrangement.

Conference further believes

1. Current access agreements for universities and colleges do not focus on estrangement and thus do not collect information on estranged students.

- 
2. There is a severe lack of specific support services for estranged students studying at university and college and thus estranged students may not know about the availability of hardship funds and additional support when applying to study at these institutions.
 3. Estranged students often face struggle to find and/or afford accommodation that allows them to remain outside of term time which means they often end up 'couch-surfing' and potentially homeless for the summer months.
 4. Estranged students in further Education have little to no financial support often have to work, sometimes full time, in order to support themselves financially in order to continue their studies and complete their course.
 5. Estranged student face particular issues, and by creating support networks between these students can allow estranged students to support each other and thus improve their mental wellbeing and reduce dropout rates


Conference resolves

1. To lobby universities and colleges to offer the following: financial support and bursaries, to offer rent guarantor schemes, provide specific student support services for prospective and current students, and appropriate training for staff members in order for them to support estranged students.
2. To lobby for universities and colleges to provide free/discounted summer month accommodation for estranged students.
3. To lobby UCAS on having special considerations for estranged student applicants.
4. To support Students' unions in creating support networks of estranged students.
5. To work with the NUS VP FE to improve support for estranged students in FE.
6. To lobby universities and colleges to include estrangement in their access agreements.
7. To lobby Student Finance to have more training in place to give correct guidance on the process for estranged students.
8. To work with Stand Alone and other organisations on finding ways to support and improve the lives of estranged students.

Motion 202: LGBT+ survivor support

Conference believes

1. Sexual assault for queer and trans women is as high as 61% compared to their heterosexual counterparts at 35%
2. 40% of gay men and 47% of bi+ men have experienced sexual violence compared to 21% of their heterosexual counterparts.
3. Over 50% of trans people have experienced sexual violence at some point in their lives.
4. That Trans people are at a high risk of sexual violence.
5. That there is little specific provision for LGBT+ survivors of sexual violence generally.
6. That NUS LGBT+ already has policy on seeking mandatory LGBT+ awareness training for medics.

- 
7. That there is currently no requirement for LGBT+ training for counselling, therapy and uniformed public service (UPS) students.
 8. That in many areas NHS support is time limited to a certain period of time after an assault.

Conference further believes

1. 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.
2. There is currently little legislation to support LGBT+ survivors, as most legislation has heteronormative assumptions.
3. That a number of services for survivors of sexual violence deliberately exclude trans people.
4. That even where trans people are included this is often lip service with little or no specific training given to staff and volunteers.
5. That police officers and NHS staff who are trained in working with victims of sexual violence are frequently unaware of the specific needs and issues LGBT+ victims have. This is especially important given the increased likelihood of mental health issues.
6. That charities dealing with sexual violence are under great financial pressure and many have had to close or reduce their services

Conference resolves

1. Aid support to LGBT+ survivor support organisations that has financial issues and risks closing.
2. Provide resources for SU advice and relevant university welfare staff on LGBT+ survivors including sign-posting to relevant organisations.
3. Provide a toolkit that all societies can access on statistics and resources.
4. Encourage LGBT+ groups to support student survivors by organising safe spaces/ networks and to ensure such networks are LGBT+ inclusive.
5. Work with NUS Women's Campaign on the #StandByMe initiative to call for the repealing of the Zellick report, to lobby universities for better reporting systems, and creating LGBT+ inclusive survivor support networks.
6. Expand the call for LGBT+ awareness training for medics to cover counselling, therapy and UPS students.
7. To work with the women's campaign and other relevant organisations to ensure that services for survivors are inclusive of LGBT+ people.
8. To campaign against cuts to survivor services and limits on when NHS services can be accessed.
9. To support students who wish to work with their institutions to increase LGBT+ awareness in Counselling, Therapy and UPS courses.



Motion 203: International Students and NUS LGBT+ campaign

Conference believes

1. As of now there are about more than 200,000 international students in the UK in only higher education.
2. It is safe to assume that many of them are LGBT+.
3. International students contribute almost 8Bn to the British economy yearly and universities generate about 10bn from international students out of their total income of 17bn

Conference further believes

1. LGBT+ campaign has been ineffective in reaching out to the international LGBT+ students.
2. We understand that many international students face isolation and serious homesickness.
3. Along with this understanding their sexualities may further put them in stressful situations.
4. Understanding that some countries may project being LGBT+ in a negative just for propaganda and then these students may have misjudged views about what it means to be an LGBT+ individual


Conference resolves

1. To provide necessary information to young international students on coming out, staying safe etc on a separate webpage.
2. Along with this creating another webpage in the NUS website where LGBT+ International students can ask questions regarding what it means to be LGBT+ and getting an informed reply to their questions.
3. Making sure that this webpage is publicised by all the Students' Union.
4. This webpage could be moderated by the International Students' Rep who will be sitting on the NUS LGBT+ committee
5. Encourage and lobby University's students' LGBT+ Committee to have at least one international Students rep on their committee
6. Doing research, collecting and publishing statistics regarding any issues faced by international LGBT+ students.

Motion 205: Housing for All

Conference believes

1. That 40% of homeless youth are LGBT+
2. That LGBT+ students are more likely to face victimisation in halls of residence
3. That LGBT+ students are more likely to be estranged for family and have a lack of financial assistance and be excluded from jobs, meaning that rates of evictions and homelessness for LGBT+ students are high
4. Student housing cooperatives have been established in some cities across the UK so students can take control of their own housing without having to engage with landlords.


- 
5. LGBT students can experience additional problems with housing in the form of homophobia, biphobia &/ transphobia from the people they live with
 6. First-year students in higher education institutions are often randomly allocated into halls of residence
 7. First-year students often opt to move out of university accommodation and privately rent in subsequent years with friends
 8. Homelessness disproportionately affects LGBTQ youth, and LGBTQ students whose families are unsupportive can struggle to get financial support during their studies.
 9. Last year, this conference voted to campaign for:
 - a. Private sector rent controls and a ban on letting agency fees, to keep prices truly affordable
 - b. Secure tenancies with flexibility for tenants, to replace precarious short-term contracts that give landlords all the power
 - c. End privatisation of student halls and cap rent at a maximum of half the minimum undergraduate loan
 - d. Extend housing benefit to students and stop proposals to cut it from under-25s
 - e. End right-to-buy and invest in expanded social housing, funded by taxing the wealthy and taxing homes left empty.
 10. Since then, the government has made things worse with a huge attack on social housing through the Housing & Planning Bill, which will:
 - a. Force councils to sell off good quality council housing to private landlords.
 - b. Remove secure tenancies from council housing residents.
 - c. Push up rents for many council tenants.
 - d. Cut investment in social housing.
 - e. Undermine the rights of travellers and gypsies.

Conference further believes

1. LGBT students may feel safer in housing in which all or most of the inhabitants are LGBT+ as they are able to live without the threat of discrimination and are able to be themselves
2. Landlords in the private sector often prefer a group of students to sign the contracts together
3. Students sometimes struggle to find a group of people they want to live with, particularly if they aren't engaged in activities such as sports or societies
4. Students at SOAS and UCL have shown that rent strikes are a powerful weapon against exploitative landlords.

Conference resolves


1. To encourage LGBT+ societies to raise money for LGBT+ housing and homelessness services such as Albert Kennedy Trust
2. To support the establishment of student housing cooperatives and produce a toolkit for setting up LGBT+ housing cooperatives

- 
3. Produce a training kit to teach welfare officers how to give LGBT+ training to halls reps
 4. To provide support in the form of toolkits, guidance, and training where appropriate to LGBT+ societies, groups, and networks, as well as part-time officers or representatives to run homes for queers events, in which LGBT+ house-hunters are able to connect and network.
 5. To ensure that the homes for queers events are run in conjunction with any appropriate Students' Union housing campaigns that provide students with housing advice, contract checking, and tips on private renting
 6. To continue our commitment to cooperating with non-student housing campaigns, aiming in the end to have unified democratic tenants' unions for all in every town, city and region.
 7. To reaffirm our campaigning commitments from last year, including lobbying politicians on those demands, especially in the run up to this year's elections.
 8. To work with the "Kill the Housing Bill" campaign, which is a coalition of trade unions, local tenants' federations, activist groups and gypsy & travellers associations (www.killthehousingbill.wordpress.com)
 9. To support and assist students to build campaigns for decent, affordable housing, including rent strikes where necessary. This should include public support and promoting useful information about how to campaign and strike.
 10. To work with organisations providing practical support for LGBT+ people facing evictions, including solidarity networks which help resist evictions.

Motion 206: Mental Health

Conference believes

1. This Tory-led Government is proving increasingly unwilling to support young people in the UK.
2. With staggering levels of youth employment, and increasing numbers homeless, this landscape is a mental health hazard.
3. 16-18-year olds with mental health problems are twice as likely to have no qualifications, and, within a year of unemployment young people are twice as likely to self-harm.
4. A situation that previously proved unresolved and disregarded is now in continuous regress.
5. In grades 7–12 lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth were more than twice as likely to have attempted suicide as their heterosexual peers.
6. LGB youth were more likely than heterosexual youth to report high levels of bullying and substance use.
7. LGBT high and middle school students (61.1%) are more likely than their non-LGBT peers to feel unsafe or uncomfortable as a result of their sexual orientation.
8. A 2013 NUS report found that 1-in-5 (20%) of students consider themselves to have a mental health problem. In addition 92% of respondents in this study identified as having feelings of mental distress.
9. 26% of students experience that mental health problems do not get treatment.

- 
10. PACE, the national LGBT+ mental health charity has closed (as of January 2016) leaving many LGBT+ people without support.
 11. The RaRe Report by PACE (2015) showed that LGBT+ people are at greater risk of suffering from mental health issues.
 12. The RaRe Report also found an increased risk of attempted suicide amongst LGBT+ people.
 13. The closure of Pace is disgusting.
 14. Statistics from the LGBT Foundation show an alarming picture: research in 2015 showed that LGB young people were found to be 3.6 times more likely to attempt suicide, and 48% of Trans* young people had made at least one attempt in their lives
 15. We have seen an increase in public discourse of mental health and a shift towards mental health sharing parity with physical health, thanks so public awareness campaigns run in part by the student movement and other charities
 16. Perhaps the most notable campaign success can be attributed to Time to Change, with their pledge now having been signed by nearly 90,000 people, in addition to employers and charities across the UK
 17. In spite of this increased awareness, the Youth Chances survey (2015) showed that 42% of LGBTQ respondents had received medical help for depression or anxiety, as opposed to 29% of heterosexual cisgender respondents

Conference further believes

1. That young people are being left with little to no mental health support due to budget cuts.
2. That young people desperately need access to mental health care provisions, especially the LGBT youth.
3. Pace offered vital services to LGBTQ people.
4. Mental health issues are one of the biggest causes of students not being successful in their studies.
5. Mental health services across the country are continuously being cut.
6. LGBT+ students are at even greater risk of suffering from mental health issues due to the combination of issues from being both LGBT+ and a student.
7. It is essential that LGBT+ students have access to mental health services on their campus.
8. Current campus mental health services do not have adequate knowledge of the issues affecting LGBT+ students, therefore the support they can offer is less effective.
9. The LGBT+ community is disproportionately affected by this country's mental health crisis, and work needs to be done to close the gap and reduce mental health problems within it
10. The heterocentric and ciscentric society in which we live is likely a significant cause behind these statistics: these two problems must not be addressed in isolation
11. LGBT+ people require specialist community based treatment as a result of that oppression
12. LGBT+ students are at a higher risk of interrupting their studies, dropping out, self-harm and suicide



Conference resolves

1. Develop a platform towards youth unemployment and homelessness that regards mental health provision.
2. Provide Student Unions with the necessary information and funding to set up student-led outreach programmes to reduce the levels of bullying and substance abuse among LGBTQ+ youth in their local area. The sessions should be led by LGBTQ+ students as teachers.
3. To carry out joint work with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) to encourage LGBT+ specific training on their courses.
4. To support LGBT+ Societies and Student Unions in lobbying to keep their mental health services and to ensure their adequacy.
5. To campaign for the return of funding for LGBTQ mental health.
6. To campaign for institutions to have a targeted mental health care for LGBT+ students
7. To produce resources about LGBT+ mental health
8. To work with the NUS Disabled Students' Campaign to end the stigma around mental health

Motion 210: A is for Ace not Ally

Conference believes

1. Ace refers to those identifying on the asexual and aromantic spectrums
2. Many LGBT+ groups are currently using A to mean Ally
3. Ace-identifying individuals often feel excluded from LGBT+ spaces

Conference further believes

1. 1% of the population identifies as ace
2. Ace Awareness Week exists to address the issue of invisibility of ace individuals
3. Many individuals are subject to acephobia, often based around the validity of their identity


Conference resolves

1. Encourage unions to include A to mean ace not ally
2. Encourage ace visibility campaigns across unions
3. Support unions to encourage LGBT+ spaces to include ace individuals

Motion 304: Love and Gender have no borders!

Conference believes

1. Action for Trans Health did a FOI request to the Home Office and found that around 25 trans people have been detained in asylum detention centres over the past 3 years. This number is likely to be much higher as the 2 largest detention centres did not respond to the FOI request and because of the Home Office's narrow definition of trans.


- 
2. Often Trans asylum seekers are kept in solitary confinement. There are no policies in place to ensure Trans detainees have access to trans-specific healthcare.
 3. A recent change in policy in the wake of the Vine Report into the experiences of LGB resulted in a change to the way in which LGB asylum seekers were questioned on their sexuality; however, this has just resulted in a shift away from stereotypes and towards unhelpful narratives of “credibility”. Many LGBT+ asylum seekers still feel it is necessary to submit sex tapes as evidence because they do not feel believed.
 4. The number of LGBT+ asylum seekers are unknown because the Home Office does not accurately collate this information.
 5. The recent Shaw Report recommended that transsexual asylum seekers be exempt from detention. The Home Office has refused to implement any detention exemptions.
 6. Of the 1000 Syrian asylum seekers recently allowed entry to the UK, the Home Office reports not one of them are LGBT+.

Conference further believes

1. That no human is illegal; border controls are an unnecessary violation of people’s freedom of movement and disproportionately impacts on people fleeing violence.
2. That many of the official channels for identifying LGBT+ asylum seekers in refugee camps are not fit for purpose.
3. That the Home Office’s definition of trans as transsexual means that it misses out many trans people from its remit. This results in imposing the western gender binary on asylum seekers if they wish to apply for asylum based on something pertaining to their trans status.

Conference resolves

1. To campaign against the detention of LGBT+ asylum seekers through a variety of methods including lobbying, direct action, and protest. To encourage campaign members and CMs to do the same.
2. To support the protests at Yarls Wood detention centre, to send officers and committee to these protests where possible.
3. To mandate the officers to write a letter to the Home Office to encourage them to stop the detention of trans asylum seekers as per the recommendations of the Shaw Report and extend this to LGB+ asylum seekers.
4. To lobby the Home Office to conduct a review of its partner organisations at refugee camps to ensure that the processes are in place to identify LGBT+ asylum seekers and allow swift relocation to the UK.
5. To campaign to ensure that all LGBT+ asylum seekers are not detained and are given citizenship as a matter of course.
6. To lobby the home office to ensure that all presenting officers who handle LGBT+ asylum cases are given LGBT+ training, which includes one-on-one mentoring.

- 
7. To lobby the Home Office to change its working definition of trans to include all trans people and not just transsexuals.

Motion 306: To campaign for PrEP to be made available on the NHS for free

Conference believes

1. There are now around 110,000 people living with HIV in the UK. Both men who sleep with men and black African communities are disproportionately affected by HIV.
2. Two European studies of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), PROUD1 and IPERGAY2, reported their results in February 2015. Both studies showed that PrEP was a highly effective method of HIV prevention, reducing new infections by 86%.

Conference further believes

1. Rates of new HIV infections are far too high.³ The NHS urgently needs to make PrEP available.
2. An NHS England process to evaluate PrEP is underway, but any decision to provide PrEP will not be implemented until late 2016 at the earliest. This is too long to wait.
3. We need to improve HIV prevention around the world and PrEP can help tackle unacceptable health inequalities.
4. Condom use has prevented tens of thousands of HIV infections. But levels of condom use are not high enough to bring HIV under control. Many people do not use condoms each time they have sex and every year there are thousands of new infections. PrEP could prevent new infections among some of those at greatest risk of acquiring HIV.
5. Condom use will remain a core strategy in HIV prevention. PrEP gives people who already find it difficult to consistently use condoms an additional way to protect their health.
6. PrEP can also be effective for heterosexual men and women. For example, a study in east Africa found that PrEP reduced infections within couples in which one partner is HIV positive by 75%.
7. PrEP allows someone to protect their own health, even if their partner refuses to use a condom. Because it is taken before sex, it does not rely on decision-making at the time of sex.
8. As well as preventing HIV infection, PrEP has additional benefits including reducing stress and anxiety about HIV transmission. It can enhance pleasure and intimacy, and limit sexual dysfunction.
9. Many people, including those who are able to use other HIV prevention options, won't need PrEP.
10. Cost-effectiveness studies show that PrEP will be affordable if it is provided to people with a significant risk of acquiring HIV. People living with HIV need to take lifelong treatment. PrEP consists of fewer drugs and people only need to take it during periods when they are at risk of HIV.



Conference resolves

1. To actively campaign for earlier access to PrEP. The NHS must speed up its evaluation process and make PrEP available as soon as possible. Interim arrangements should be agreed now to provide PrEP to those at the highest risk of acquiring HIV.
2. To actively campaign for PrEP to be available to all people who are at high risk of acquiring HIV, whatever their gender or sexuality.
3. To actively campaign for the NHS to make PrEP available for free of charge on the NHS.
4. To actively campaign for PrEP to be made available to trans people.

Motion 309: Abolish the Prison-Industrial Complex

Conference believes

1. In 2015, there were 238 deaths in prison in England & Wales, 84 of which were self-inflicted
2. Trans people are overrepresented in prison populations
3. As was particularly highlighted in the media in 2015, trans prisoners are often incarcerated in the incorrect prisons for their gender, and may be unable to access vital medication such as hormones
4. Prison does not work- 59% of prisoners will reoffend within a year

Conference further believes

1. That many prisons are run privately by companies such as G4S and Serco for the purposes of profit
2. As prisons are run for profit, the more marginalised members of society, such as women, LGBTQIA+, people of colour, trans people &/ sex workers are more likely to be incarcerated, often wrongly
3. Prison is punishment which is ineffective in serving justice or reforming people
4. Arrests are politically made, and are often racially and/or transphobically motivated

Conference resolves

1. To work with organisations such as the Bent Bars Project that provide letter-writing projects for LGBTQIA+ prisoners in Britain
2. To actively work towards the abolition of the prison-industrial complex
3. To investigate the myriad of alternatives to incarceration and actively promote them
4. To directly oppose all austerity cuts which may lead to higher rates of incarceration using a variety of campaigning tactics including direct action
5. To create and distribute appropriate resources to Students' Unions on running campaigns that call for prison abolition



Motion 311: We're here, we're queer but we've nowhere to go

Conference believes

1. Numerous LGBT+ venues and organisations across the country, such as Candy Bar, Green Carnation, the Joiners Arm and the Royal Vauxhall Tavern, have faced threats of being closed down or have closed down due to lack of funding as a result of government cuts, gentrification and soaring rents.
2. PACE, an LGBT+ mental health charity has closed down after 31 years, citing cuts to local authority budgets and being unable to cover the costs through other means.
3. The TUC's 2014 report 'Staying Alive' outlines that 75% of LGBT+ charities and organisations outside of London have seen state income not rise or has fallen since the 2010 spending review, in contrast to a 6% rise in demand for LGBT+ services.
4. The 'Staying Alive' report also outlines that LGBT+ organisations have had to cut services and jobs in order to cope with the slashing of budgets.

Conference further believes

1. That the government's austerity agenda has caused a financial crisis that threatens the livelihood and efficacy of LGBT+ venues and organisations. Additionally, although the effect of government cuts is not limited to just LGBT+ organisations, the effect is disproportionate and felt far more profoundly.
2. LGBT+ venues in University towns and cities provide a networking and community opportunity for students and the local community.
3. The existence of the LGBT+ community as a community is compromised by the loss of venues which have provided safety and companionship for generations.
4. Older LGBT+ venues have historical and cultural value to the local area. Closing them down could erase important parts of local LGBT+ history.
5. LGBT+ organisations provide an invaluable service to LGBT+ people who need them, particularly for students where Universities and Unions cannot provide the same or adequate service.

Conference resolves

1. For NUS LGBT+ to explore ways to help support existing LGBT+ organisations and venues under threat.
2. To oppose further cuts that will disproportionately impact LGBT+ spaces.
3. To support existing grassroots campaigns, such as 'Save our Soho', which seek to defend LGBT+ venues from closure.
4. To encourage students' unions to aid and assist local LGBT+ venues and organisations where possible.



Motion 312: Make Pride a protest!

Conference believes

1. Pride marches came out of the Stonewall riots, and began as part of a fight for our rights.
2. Nowadays, too many Pride marches have been reduced to corporate-sponsored parties that do nothing to tackle the continuing oppression and disadvantages facing LGBT+ people.

Conference further believes

1. Last year, the re-formed Lesbians & Gays Support the Miners activists led inspiring blocs on Prides around the UK, of trade unionists, migrant rights campaigners and student activists, reasserting Pride as a political protest.
2. We should keep that up and be a loud, political presence at Prides, raising anti-austerity, pro-migrant campaigns – highlighting how issues like student finance cuts, the housing crisis, the privatisation of the NHS and the attacks on migrants materially affect LGBT+ people.
3. It's important to maintain a presence at Prides rather than giving up on them, because it is a huge platform to get our message out and reach people we might not otherwise reach – and because it was ours, and should be ours again!

Conference resolves

1. NUS LGBT+ will organise a student contingent at as many Prides around the country as possible, including the biggest (Pride in London).
2. We will invite student unions, campus LGBT+ groups, and education activists to march in our contingent.
3. We will try to coordinate as much as possible with the trade unions, and get our student contingents placed alongside their blocs within Pride marches.
4. On these Pride marches, we will promote explicit anti-austerity, pro-migrant rights, pro-social justice demands that affect LGBT+ people. These demands should include, but are not limited to:
5. Homes for all: Rent controls and stop the attacks on social housing and housing benefit
6. Save the NHS: Reverse privatisation, support NHS workers and fund trans healthcare and mental and sexual health
7. Grants Not Debt: Reverse cuts to maintenance grants and health student bursaries and give every student a living grant
8. Open the borders to refugees and migrants, including LGBT+ asylum seekers fleeing persecution
9. In future we will push for Prides to be taken under the democratic control of the trade union and student union movements and community organisations, and charities representing ordinary LGBT+ people instead of big business sponsors.



Motion 401: A trans health fund in every union

Conference believes

1. That the UK trans health system is in crisis due to illegally long waiting lists at gender identity clinics, a lack of doctors and other specialists entering the service, a lack of funding, and demand which increases 20-30% each year. Additionally, services are often not accessible to non-binary people and people with mental health issues.
2. We have previously passed policy to campaign for better access to trans healthcare through various methods including protest, direct action, lobbying, etc. We have also passed policy affiliating to Action for Trans Health.
3. That many trans people end up paying to access healthcare privately because NHS gender identity services are so bad. This option is not available to people who cannot afford it.
4. That Action for Trans Health run a "solidarity fund" which raises money which is given as small grants to trans people to access healthcare. The grants are awarded by an independent panel who prioritise people who face the greatest barriers to access.


Conference resolves

1. To reaffirm our commitment to fighting for a democratic, appropriately funded trans healthcare system which is accessible to all trans people who need it. To continue to campaign on this issue through all appropriate methods including protest, direct action, and lobbying.
2. To encourage CMs to work with Action for Trans Health to establish their own trans healthcare funds to help with costs associated with their trans member's healthcare. That a certain proportion of any of these funds should be allocated to people who are not students but live in the local area to ensure that it is not just students who benefit from such schemes.
3. To encourage LGBT+ societies to raise money for Action for Trans Health's solidarity fund.

Motion 403: Building a more accessible conference

Conference believes

1. Motions are printed in advance of conference, with some access needs met in advance
2. Conference motions are printed in text, but little is done for other access needs from, Easy words and pictures, Subtitling and transcriptions, Audio description, BSL and Braille.
3. LGBT+ spaces need to be more accessible to people with additional Educational and access needs
4. Disabled students deserve to be able to understand and enforce their own autonomy as LGBT+ people
5. NUS is the self-professed national voice of students, with around 600 affiliated students' unions
6. NUS members include higher education institutions, further education institutions and apprenticeship providers. Within our membership are specialist institutions including Derwen College, a specialist residential college for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities
7. NUS liberation campaigns are at the heart of our work, fighting for liberation from oppression

- 
8. NUS this year has continued to develop the training programme – FE Leaders – developed specifically for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities

Conference further believes

1. At National + DSC NUS pledged to work to better include SEN + LD students. LGBT+ has to support that.
2. Learners with learning difficulties and disabilities are entitled to a voice within our structures, entitled to have their views listened to and their voice heard. They are also very limited in their choices for further education and it is essential that their rights are promoted, defended and extended.
3. Cuts to funding are failing learners with learning difficulties and disabilities and reducing the places available at specialist colleges.
4. NUS prides itself on access awareness, but it still falls short for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities.
5. NUS has a duty to ensure that all members are able to understand processes, to make an informed decision and choice.


Conference resolves

1. To create resources, work with: the diverse range of organisations within the sector to talk about how can make NUS LGBT+ conference more accessible, with organisations like, ALLFIE, Mind, SCOPE, Down's Syndrome Association
2. That NUS LGBT+ should Increase SEN Representation at conference, by, encouraging SEN colleges to attend, Emphasising access availability and for the NUS LGBT+ Officers to visit colleges
3. To seek to work with relevant organisations and DSC to produce resources on LGBT+ issues that are aimed at and accessible to a wide range of disabled students
4. To endorse NATSPEC's 'A Right, Not a Fight' campaign for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities, demanding that all students with special educational needs have access to specialist support
5. To further develop the FE Leaders programme developed specifically for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities
6. For the VPFE and VPUD to work with the LGBT Officers to review NUS information, seek and undertake relevant training and produce accessible versions
7. For NUS LGBT Officers, VPFE and VPUD to visit Derwen College Students' Union to gain a better understanding of how specialist colleges function to ensure that training is relevant to need.

Motion 405: Supporting LGBT+ Activists

Conference believes

1. LGBT liberation officers and representatives conduct a real scope of work including change and awareness campaigns, and often have to navigate complex and inaccessible institutions and systems
2. LGBT liberation officers and representatives are often unpaid by their Unions

- 
3. LGBT liberation officers and representatives have to juggle their union responsibilities such as attending union meetings with their personal lives which can take a toll on their physical and mental health
 4. Many LGBT liberation officers and representatives and also activists struggle to be effective in their roles if they are not provided with the adequate training and resources by their unions &/ NUS

Conference further believes

1. Small & specialist students' unions and underfunded unions often have limited staff capacity to effectively support liberation officers and representatives, and so may struggle to provide training and resources to such students
2. That liberation structures within students' unions should be student-led and properly supported
3. That LGBT liberation officers, activists and representatives ought to be properly supported in their roles by NUS LGBT+ campaign
4. That LGBT liberation officers, activists and representatives require training on subjects such as campaigning, being effective leaders, methods of activism, and self-care tips

Conference resolves

1. For the NUS LGBT+ officers and committee members (where appropriate) to support LGBT+ officers, representatives and activists using a variety of development initiatives that NUS Women's campaign has used including but not limited to regional activist training days, regional workshops run by the national committee, campaigns training, self-care workshops and toolkits, boot-camps and leadership programmes
2. For NUS LGBT+ to provide resources to Unions to create paid liberation officers

Motion 407: LGBT+ Officers for all

Conference believes


1. All constituent members should have effective LGBT+ representation, including elected officers and/or committees to ensure liberation is instilled in them and that LGBT+ people are represented.

Conference further believes

1. Having LGBT+ representation ensures that issues relevant to the community are addressed and not ignored, and that the values of liberation are embedded in all constituent members.
2. That these elections must only be open to people who self-define into LGBT+.
3. LGBT+ Officers and Committees are empowering to students who may otherwise not get involved in their representative institutions or activism.

Conference resolves

1. To call for NUS LGBT+ to produce a toolkit for students at constituent members without LGBT+ Officers for to campaign to have them introduced.

- 
2. NUS LGBT+ should encourage and empower students to demand that their representative institutions have LGBT+ representation in the form of elected


Motion 408: Defending Safe(r) spaces and No Platforming

Conference believes

1. Safe(r) spaces can be defined in different ways, but common elements include zero tolerance for discriminatory behaviour, being aware of the impact of one's language, having autonomous spaces for marginalised groups and being respectful of marginalised people's subjective experiences.
2. No platforming is a strategy used by Students' Unions whereby they don't provide a forum for known oppressors or allow elected officers to share a platform with them.
3. Safe(r) spaces, no platforming and related measures such as the use of content warnings have widely been criticised in parts of the media, with many commentators arguing that they serve to simply ban opinions certain students don't like and thereby censor free speech in universities.
4. The magazine Spiked has created a 'Free Speech University Ranking', where universities and SUs are assessed as to whether they 'ban or actively censor ideas on campus' or 'chill free speech through intervention'.
5. Misogyny, transphobia, racism and biphobia are often present in LGBT+ societies. This is unfortunately more likely to occur when the society is dominated by white cis gay men.
6. The reps system exists to ensure that societies committees can always have a reserved place for groups which disproportionately face oppression within the LGBT+ community.
7. Gay men do not face oppression as gay men within the LGBT+ community and do not need a reserved place on society committees.

Conference further believes

1. There is no single definition of a safe(r) space. The term means different things to different communities and individuals, and this is a strength of the term.
2. Safe(r) spaces are essential to liberation. When they are debated for academic ends, a concept that is vital to the active participation of many students on campus is undermined.
3. Marginalised students should not be expected to debate what are often uncomfortable and/or triggering issues for the benefit of 'free speech'.
4. Free speech does not exist in a vacuum. If oppressive it has often damaging consequences for marginalised people in ways privileged people cannot understand, and accusing students who need safe(r) spaces of being coddled or authoritarian erases their experience of oppression.
5. No platforming is not censorship. Students' Unions have a choice of who to host as speakers, and denying them that platform is a choice that SUs should feel free to make on ideological and welfare-based grounds. There are no consequences for those who fall foul of safe(r) space and no platforming policies apart from them not being provided a platform as they are not being prevented from speaking overall.
6. Providing prejudiced people a platform on which to express bigotry justifies academic debate over people's personal experience of oppression, which further marginalises oppressed groups.

- 
7. Spiked Magazine's university rankings are vile. They are the epitome of this challenge to safe(r) spaces, and they are misleading and wrongheaded.

Conference resolves

1. To work with other liberation campaigns to create an intersectional working group on building and maintaining safe(r) spaces, specifically liaising with liberation committees in CMs to provide advice on how safe(r) spaces can be maintained.
2. To loudly and vociferously defend the concept of the safe(r) space and no platforming.
3. To actively support SUs in implementing safe(r) spaces and no platforming policies.
4. To encourage LGBT+ Societies that have a gay men's rep to drop the position.

No Women in Men's Prisons

Content Warnings: Prison abuse, rape, suicide.

Conference believes

1. That Tara Hudson, a trans woman, was placed in a male prison despite the judge sentencing her recommending that she should be placed in a female prison.
2. That Vicky Thompson, another trans woman who said she would kill herself if she was placed in a male prison, was placed in HMP Leeds, a Category B male prison, and was subsequently found dead in November 2015.
3. That the Ministry of Justice and the Women and Equalities Select Committee are aware of abuses of trans people in the justice system, as shown by submissions to the latter body.

Conference further believes

1. That placing trans people into prisons based on the gender they were assigned at birth puts them at high risk of violence and abuse from both other prisoners and prison staff.
2. That automatically placing trans people in isolated confinement constitutes torture based on their identity.

Conference resolves

1. That prisons minister Andrew Selous should resign, and the NUS should campaign for his resignation.
2. For a completely independent inquiry into abuses of trans people in the justice system.
3. That custodial sentences should only be used as an absolute last resort when all other methods of rehabilitation have failed.
4. That anybody receiving a custodial service should be placed in the general population of a prison conforming to their self-defined gender.
5. To campaign for the Ministry of Justice review on trans women in the justice system to include at least one trans woman on the panel.



Keep Wednesday Afternoons Free (from Cissexism)!

Conference believes

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

Conference further believes

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

Conference resolves

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


A trans+ inclusive feminism

Conference believes

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

Conference further believes

1. That an inclusive feminism is vital to organise against the patriarchy.
2. That an inclusive feminism should be part of our movement.

- 
3. That NUS LGBT should support the rights of trans* people to be involved in groups into which they self-define.
 4. That a trans*-exclusionary or transphobia feminism has no place in our movement.

Conference resolves

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