
nus **s** *scotland* **CONFERENCE**

27 April 2018 | Edinburgh

LGBT+ Conference Motions document

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contact NUS Scotland on 0131 556 6598
or email democracy@nus-scotland.org.uk





Motion 1

There's no I in E,D&....oh wait, there is

Tabled by: NUS Scotland LGBT+ Committee

Conference notes:

1. With the rise of right-wing governments and the increase of far-right activism people feel more able to air opinions and ideas that are counteractive to the development of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.
2. Many students feel as if they are unable to challenge this behaviour, when witnessed in lecturing or support staff, due to a fear of negative repercussions or having their protest disregarded entirely.
3. Further and Higher education institutions have a duty to educate their students in a safe and non-judgemental environment.

Conference believes:

1. Every student has the right to learn in an environment where their public presentation or protected characteristics are not ignored or disregarded.
2. A "zero tolerance" policy should actually comprise some aspect of zero tolerance rather than being a mild deterrent that is rarely, if ever, enacted.
3. The disregarding or deliberate attack of any individuals protected characteristics is in contradiction to the 2010 Equalities Act and is a punishable crime.

Conference resolves:

1. NUS will support student unions and associations to lobby the unions which represent both lecturing and support staff to introduce a stronger implementation of their Equality and Diversity policies
2. NUS will support student unions and associations to lobby Further and Higher Education institutions to introduce a stronger implementation of their Equality and Diversity policies
3. NUS will work to educate students on their rights to an education without the fear of discrimination and to be protected from the repercussions of challenging this type of negative behaviour.

Motion 2


Gender Neutral Bathrooms NOW!


Tabled by: Glasgow Caledonian University Students' Association

Conference notes:

1. Being able to comfortably go to the bathroom is a right, and should not be an issue faced by anybody during their studies at college or university.
2. There is an ever-growing demand for gender neutral bathrooms on campuses across Scotland.
3. Every campus has a sufficient number of 'disabled' toilets, which facilities management teams say are gender neutral.
4. Colleges and universities face a financial challenge in installing purpose built gender neutral bathrooms on campus.

Conference believes:

1. In the push for gender neutral bathrooms on campuses, nothing seems to be getting done as a matter of priority.
 2. The use of a wheelchair symbol on disabled toilets is off-putting for students who do not have a visible disability to use those bathroom facilities.
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3. The term 'disabled' toilets is also off-putting for gender neutral students to use those facilities, as gender recognition is in no way a disability.

Conference resolves:

1. NUS Scotland LGBT+ campaign will push for disabled bathrooms on campuses to be rebranded as accessible, with the removal of the wheelchair symbol, and instead the wording 'accessible' displayed on doors.
2. NUS Scotland LGBT+ campaign will push for accessible bathrooms to be promoted as gender neutral, as well as accessible for all, and not just for wheelchair users.
3. NUS Scotland LGBT+ campaign will continue to fight for purpose built gender neutral bathrooms to be installed in every building on university and college campuses.

Motion 3

Sex Ed for the People

Tabled by: NUS Scotland LGBT+ Committee

Conference notes:

1. Mainstream Sex Education is hetero- and cisnormative, and rarely addresses the needs of LGBT+ people.
2. There is a stigma around seeking information and support from sexual health services.
3. Trans people in particular face barriers accessing sexual health services due to the cissexist nature and misgendering within these services.

Conference believes:

1. Sex Education for LGBT+ people needs to focus not just on commonplace sexual practices but also on HIV prevention, chemsex, and gender dysphoria.
2. Sex Education should aim to eradicate stigma and pathologization of LGBT+ identities.

Conference resolves:

1. To work with sexual health services and third sector organisations 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.
3. To push for universities and colleges to provide competent LGBT-inclusive sexual health services under pastoral duties.

Motion 4


Disabled LGBT+ students should be safe too


Tabled by: Glasgow Caledonian University Students' Association

Conference notes:

1. Disabled students form a large part of the LGBT+ community on our campuses.
2. Safe spaces and locations for events held by LGBT+ groups by students' associations aren't always accessible for disabled students to attend.
3. All universities and colleges in Scotland have an obligation to be inclusive of students from all backgrounds, including those who fall into any liberation group.

Conference believes:

1. Disabled LGBT+ students should not face any disadvantage in being included in events and activities because of their ability.
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2. Safe spaces should be accessible to everybody, no matter their sexual orientation, gender identity or their ability.

Conference resolves:

1. NUS Scotland LGBT+ committee should give support to LGBT+ groups to help them set up safe spaces on campus, if one is not already in place.
2. All LGBT+ safe spaces in universities and colleges across Scotland should be looked at and adapted, if needed, to suit make them accessible for disabled students.
3. LGBT+ groups should consider the locations of their events to ensure disabled students are able to attend them without any disadvantage.

Motion 5

Decriminalising Sex Work

Tabled by: NUS Scotland LGBT+ Committee


Conference notes:

1. The current regime of austerity, and cuts to services and support have disproportionately affected trans women, trans migrants and trans people of colour.
2. 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.
3. Sex workers of all backgrounds deserve to have their rights protected.
4. The Student Sex Worker Project shows us that at least one in twenty students have engaged in sex work .
5. Transgender Europe's recent report declares that 88% of murdered trans people in Europe are sex workers.

Conference 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. Criminalising the purchase of sex puts sex workers, especially those who work on the street, in danger.
3. Decriminalisation reduces police abuse, harassment and violence against sex workers.
4. 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.

Conference resolves:

1. To support and campaign for the full decriminalisation of sex work.
 2. To support sex worker led organisations, such as SWARM and SCOT-PEP, who work to improve the lives of sex workers across the UK and beyond.
 3. To campaign against attempts to introduce the Nordic Model in the UK.
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Motion 6

Keeping T with LGBT+

Tabled by: **Ayrshire College Students' Association**

Conference notes:

1. This year will see the first NUS Scotland Trans officer, committee and autonomous campaign.

Conference believes:

1. There should be no removal of the 'T' from LGBT
2. Doing so could cause a detrimental effect to both campaigns
3. Both campaigns should have a good working relationship with each other as they may face similar issues.

Conference resolves:

1. There should be a clear link between both the NUS Scotland LGBT+ and autonomous Trans campaigns

Motion 7

It's time to end binary gendered sports

Tabled by: **Glasgow Caledonian University Students' Association**


Conference notes:

1. Sport plays a vital part in the social aspect of a students' career at college or university.
2. Sport should be inclusive for all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
3. Many current FE and HE sport leagues only offer male or female teams and tournaments.

Conference believes:

1. By limiting sports teams to just male or female, many transgender and non-binary students feel discriminated against and unable to play sports for their college or university.
2. Skills do not depend on a person's gender, and therefore gendered sports teams have no requirement.
3. Sports teams saying they are supportive of the LGBT+ community does not automatically mean they are actually inclusive, and they should go further.

Conference resolves:

1. NUS Scotland LGBT+ should push for gender neutral sports leagues to be introduced between higher and further education sports unions.
 2. These leagues should be open for all to join, with no discrimination made towards any participant because of their gender identity.
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