

## **Mandates from LGBT+ Conferences 2014-17**

The following mandates were passed as policy at NUS Scotland LGBT+ Conferences 2014-17. It is part of the role of LGBT+ Committee to carry out the work which was mandated at the conferences.

### **2014**

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#### **I should be able to give someone a pint if I want to – further reduction of limitations on blood donation**

##### **Conference believed:**

1. More and more members of the LGBT community are becoming aware of the risks of HIV and receive regular testing.
2. A large amount of the LGBT community practice safe sexual acts.
3. There is a decline in the amount of blood being donated and a rise in need for blood.
4. Blood being donated undergoes a rigorous testing process to ensure it is not contaminated.
5. While men who engage in anal or oral sex with another man are unable to give blood unless they have abstained from these activities for 12 months, those men who engage in sexual activity with a woman protected or unprotected are not similarly restricted.
6. HIV is detectable after a period of 4 weeks up after infection allowing for less of a need for months of wait.

##### **Conference further believed:**

1. LGBT members have a right not to be discriminated against.
2. LGBT men have a right not to be discriminated against for their sexuality and safe sexual activities.
3. Information on the restrictions on and how to donate is important.
4. Further education on HIV and other blood borne diseases is important to help remove stigma and increase blood donation.
5. That since the reduction of restrictions the resolve for this campaign has declined.

##### **Conference resolved:**

1. NUS LGBT Scotland will support all universities and colleges across Scotland to make the final push on this issue.
2. NUS LGBT Scotland will produce a draft letter which all universities and colleges can present to their local MP's addressing this issue.
3. NUS LGBT Scotland will encourage universities and colleges to lobby their local MP's further on this issue.

**\* Trigger warning: this motion mentions domestic abuse, rape and sexual harassment**

## **Violence against non-monosexual women**

### **Conference believed:**

1. Non-monosexual women are more likely than their lesbian or heterosexual counterparts to experience rape and/or intimate partner violence.
2. According to The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (2010), focussing on the United States of America, one in six heterosexual women have been raped in their lifetime. One in eight lesbian women have been raped in their lifetime.
3. Nearly half of non-monosexual women have been raped in their lifetime (46.1%).
4. 35% of heterosexual women, 43.8% of lesbian women and 61.1% of non-monosexual women reported experiencing intimate partner violence in this survey.

### **Conference further believed:**

1. Women who sleep with women are sexually stereotyped by the patriarchal gaze as being desirous of attention or enacting male fantasies. This is evidenced in 'lesbian' porn (aimed not at lesbians, but at men), in club nights designed to attract men, and in music videos and other visual media where same-sex attraction is performed for a looking male figure.
2. Women who are attracted to more than one gender are stereotyped as cheaters, 'sluts', sexually adventurous – not to be trusted. These women are wrongly considered to be 'lesbians with one foot in the closet' or straight women experimenting.
3. It is likely that these stereotypes have an impact on the unusually and disgracefully high rate of non-monosexual women's experiences of rape and intimate partner violence.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. To work with LGBT organisations and women's organisations to investigate the experiences of rape and domestic violence among non-monosexual women in Scotland.
2. To reiterate our stance against biphobic harassment, bullying and stereotyping, and against the sexualisation of women who sleep with women.
3. To campaign to raise awareness of the violence experienced by women who are attracted to more than one gender.

## **LGBT and sport**

### **Conference believed:**

1. Many students engage with their Students' Union/Association through sports, clubs, societies and activities.
2. NUS Scotland has had a reputation of not engaging with sports, clubs, societies and activities as well as the sabbaticals that represent these areas.
3. There has been a difficulty in getting sport and activity sabbaticals fully involved and engaged with the work that NUS Scotland does due to the environment they can often find themselves in.

4. More work needs to be done to engage with sport and activity sabbaticals while promoting an inclusive and friendly environment for them to be involved within NUS Scotland.

**Conference further believed:**

1. Sport and activities are a hot spot for students who have just entered college and/or university to get actively involved and meet new friends – adding to the student experience.
2. However, for some students, they can be deterred from getting involved due to reputations (e.g. LGBT students and sport clubs).
3. With the coverage of Sochi's Winter Olympics and the 2014 Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow this Summer, more needs to be done in highlighting LGBT participation in sport.

**Conference resolved:**

1. NUS Scotland LGBT to create a toolkit for sport and activities sabbaticals on engaging with LGBT groups and getting them more involved in events happening on campus.
2. NUS Scotland LGBT to promote and showcase the work that student unions/association are doing in the sports and activities area of work in order to share best practice amongst all institutions on engaging with LGBT students on campus.
3. NUS Scotland LGBT to run a LGBT & Sport campaign as part of their priorities over the next year to engage with and encourage LGBT students to participate in sport.

**Trans\* gathering**

**Conference believed:**

1. That currently there is no official forum or gathering in Scotland specifically for Trans\* students.
2. That, although making up only a small percentage of student demographics, Trans\* people are disproportionately disaffected and marginalised.
3. That many institutions across Scotland offer free, accessible rooms on campus to host workshops and events.
4. That catering for medium-sized events such as the proposed need not be expensive, and can easily be achieved through community and grassroots effort.

**Conference further believed:**

1. That having an autonomous country-wide gathering is both empowering and essential to not only building a strong network of trans\* students across Scotland, but to best gauge how NUS LGBT Scotland can further support trans\* students.

**Conference resolved:**

1. That NUS LGBT Scotland put on an annual trans\* student gathering, facilitated by the Trans\* Rep.
2. That this gathering rotate around different cities each year to ensure as much of the Scottish Trans\* student population as possible is accounted for.
3. That this gathering happen in advance of conference.

4. That this gathering be run with cost-saving measures, to ensure it does not drain NUS LGBT Scotland's budget from other vital resources.
5. That the agenda for said gathering shall be decided upon by the Trans\* Rep, and the event be widely circulated and advertised to LGBT societies and groups in all institutions across Scotland.
6. To recognise the autonomy of our Trans\* students and to do all we can to support this endeavour.

## **Coming out about same-sex violence**

### **Conference believed:**

1. Research and support for domestic and sexual abuse is often limited to male-on-female violence. This makes it difficult for LGBT people to talk about their experiences of violence.
2. A two-year study commissioned by the NSPCC and published in 2009 explored physical, verbal, emotional and sexual violence amongst young people aged 13–16. The study found that having a same-sex partner significantly increased the risk of experiencing physical partner violence.
3. It is estimated that one in four lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people have experienced domestic violence in their relationship, according to "Comparing Domestic Abuse in Same Sex and Heterosexual Relationships". (The research was carried out in November 2006 by Dr Catherine Donovan (senior lecturer in Sociology at Sunderland University), Prof Marianne Hester (chair of Gender, Violence and International Policy at Bristol University), Jonathan Holmes and Melanie McCarry).

### **Conference further believed:**

1. Many find it difficult to contact the police about their experiences for fear of homophobia, or, particularly for female-on-female violence, not being taken seriously.
2. Others may find it difficult to name their experience as such.
3. As there is already so much stigma around the LGBT community especially in relation to sex, it can be hard to shed light on negative issues. It is important that as a community we spread awareness around sexual violence.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. For LGBT reps and societies to make it part of their policy to raise awareness on domestic violence in LGBT relationships.

## **The right to look and act LGBT**

### **Conference believed:**

1. In February, the Equal Marriage Bill was passed in Scotland; legislatively our equality is ever increasing.
2. However, many LGBT people still do not feel comfortable being visible in their relationships, holding hands or kissing in public, for fear of being catcalled or subject to violence.

### **Conference further believed:**

1. This is a result of long-standing prejudice against the LGBT community, coming from homophobia and transphobia deep rooted in fear and lack of understanding.
2. Student Unions are a great place to educate, celebrate and invite people in to the LGBT community.
3. The more people are aware of an LGBT culture around them, the more they can grow to accept it.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. For a list of LGBTQIA terminology to be detailed in freshers' packs and widely available on union websites.

### **Non-sexual safe spaces**

#### **Conference believed:**

1. LGBT spaces are often limited to either being places to meet potential partners, or places of support.
2. The G1 group are problematic, their incident refusing access to a disabled customer being just one of their wider known acts of discrimination.
3. Many smaller towns and rural areas have no commercial gay scene and no space where LGBTQIA people can meet.
4. Many LGBTQIA people have taken to meeting others through online dating, this presents risks and has created an unhealthy "argos.com" way off assessing and viewing people.

#### **Conference further believed:**

1. LGBT people in Glasgow and Scotland wide deserve more spaces that go beyond catering to mainstream culture.
2. There should be spaces that are not just geared towards the culture of going out.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. To take steps to starting up a student-led initiative to open more LGBTQIA spaces in Scotland.
2. NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign will give particular support to student-led initiatives to set up LGBTQIA spaces in or near small town and rural colleges where there is no or limited existing LGBTQIA space.

### **No Homophobes in NUS Scotland LGBT**

#### **Conference believed:**

1. That the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign has a duty to protect and promote the rights of all its members.
2. That some 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 UK 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 resolved:**

1. For NUS Scotland 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.

**TRANSucation**

**Conference noted:**

1. Currently in colleges and universities there are no suitable support systems for students going into education who identify as other than Binary (Male/Female, Transman/Transwoman).

**Conference believed:**

1. That NUS should create partnerships with organisations in Scotland who involve Non-Binary people (such as Transgender Alliance) in order to facilitate the creation of resources for use in colleges and universities which would help staff and students understand the importance of how to support Non-Binary students (eg using gender neutral pronouns and not outing them for being Trans\*) in order to help Non-Binary students have a more easy going education.
2. That some of the types of resources that NUS could create by having partnerships with Trans\* specific organisations could be information booklets around Gender Neutral Pronouns explaining that the pronouns are gender neutral (ie pronouns and not plurals).
3. That resources should also be created that are student specific such as "How not to out students who have come out to you in confidence about being Trans\* in general".
4. That training packs should be produced for heads of colleges and universities for use in creating extra training for staff to educate them on Transgender/Transsexual/Non-Binary issues regarding students in general such as HRT, terminology, etc.

**Conference resolved:**

1. That LGBT Committee should seek to enter into partnerships with Trans\* Specific organisations in Scotland and endeavour to bring about the production of the resources mentioned in Conference Believes 1-4 supra.

**Scotland LGBT – we need each other**

**Conference noted:**

1. Constituent members throughout Scotland struggle to engage with other LGBT societies due to the lack of resources available to easily contact other societies via email or telephone.

2. Social networking sites on the internet i.e. Facebook allow for people from all over the country to chat and discuss topics of relevance.
3. Events ran by LGBT societies enable LGBT students to feel in a safe environment around other LGBT students.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. The lack of information available about other LGBT societies across Scotland has led to a lack of involvement between societies.
2. The participation of LGBT students in campaigns run throughout Scotland would increase if LGBT officers and LGBT societies were able to communicate with each other.
3. Interaction between Scottish LGBT societies builds links and opportunities for LGBT societies to enable strong, well run campaigns.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. For the NUS Scotland LGBT Committee to develop an accessible list of email and telephone contacts for all constituent member LGBT officers or LGBT societies.
2. To support Scottish LGBT society nights, meetings and events wherever possible at other constituencies.
3. For the NUS Scotland LGBT Committee to give regular updates similar to the NUS Scotland update via the accessible site to allow members the chance to get involved with campaigning and for Scottish LGBT students to know what is happening within the Campaign.

### **NUS Scotland LGBT Community website**

#### **Conference believed:**

1. There is no independent central point online for different LGBT societies to advertise events or campaigns that they are running locally.
2. That the only outlets for this sort of advertising are social networking websites like Bebo and Facebook.
3. Within the LGBT campaign section of Officer Online, it is only the LGBT officers who can post blogs.
4. Individual LGBT societies in Scotland are isolated from each other in terms of organising events together, providing resources and best practice advice to each other.
5. That a similar motion to this was submitted to NUS National LGBT Conference however was not debated.

#### **Conference further believed:**

1. By restricting the communication between different LGBT societies to social networking websites, it isolates LGBT students who cannot join online LGBT-related groups or sign up for LGBT-related updates/events because they are not out to all their friends or family on these websites.

2. This lack of communication and advertising means that events and campaigns are not as strong as they could be because LGBT societies are unable to use the wealth of knowledge, opinions and support that could be available from other LGBT societies to enhance their own events and campaigns.
3. LGBT students would benefit from new sources of support and advice; and a new sense of closer community.
4. That the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign would benefit from stronger events and campaigns.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To mandate the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer to develop a website that provides an access point for all LGBT students to contribute to campaigns being run in Scotland, whether it be directly (being there in person to show support) or indirectly (providing resources and advice through the website).
2. To encourage LGBT societies in Scotland to collaborate when running events and campaigns to make them more effective and to send out a stronger campaign message.

## 2015

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### **Not everything is about university: the need to develop our colleges**

**Conference noted:**

1. Further education 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 and 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, further education 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 believed:**

1. Students who are LGBT Officers/Presidents face many challenges whether from students or staff when facilitating meetings, activities and events.
2. 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.



3. In order for this to happen, LGBT students/Officers/Presidents need to have support from their respected student associations/unions and the institution itself.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To mandate the NUS Scotland 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.

**FTO pay for a volunteer FTO job**

**Conference noted:**

1. The NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign is run by volunteers who are full-time students or are sabbatical student officers within their institutions.
2. The NUS Scotland LGBT Officer is a voluntary position and is traditionally a full-time student or sabbatical student officer within their institution.
3. The workload of the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign and the Officer has the same expectations of those who are in FTO positions (such as the President, VP Education and Women's Officer).

**Conference believed:**

1. Such ideologies are damaging for those who are in those positions and can put the Officer in very stressful situations leading to negative impact on their health and wellbeing.
2. For volunteer officers who are full-time students, still have to work part-time jobs just to make enough money to live by.
3. Volunteer officers work more than full-time hours within the voluntary roles that they have been elected into for NUS and we have little to no funding for our campaigns within their campaigns and this is exactly the situation with the LGBT Campaign.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To lobby NUS Scotland to make the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer a full-time paid position within NUS Scotland.

**LGBTQI in Leading**

**Conference noted:**

1. The current image of a leader is a white non-disabled heterosexual cis man which means that people seeking election or influence who define into a liberation group face disadvantage and prejudice when standing for such positions.
2. Issues of inequality and underrepresentation can't be addressed just by simply getting more individual LGBTQI people into positions of leadership.

**Conference believed:**

1. For LGBTQI in Leading to be successful, the programme must look into specific aspects such as public speaking workshops, confidence building, smashing down barriers and changing organisational culture.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. NUS Scotland LGBT to develop a coaching scheme that will support and encourage LGBTQI people to run in elections locally or within their institutions but also for positions within NUS itself.
2. For NUS to introduce LGBTQI-only sessions at summer training courses and make a LGBTQI-only session compulsory at all residential summer training events.
3. To support and encourage students' unions and associations to conduct such workshops throughout the academic year in order to diversify their election candidates.

### **LGBTQI asylum seekers and refugees**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. That LGBTQI people seeking asylum face an unacceptable lack of specialist support and services.
2. That every LGBTQI identified person has the human right to life, liberty and security, and the right of freedom from torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
3. That LGBTQI people who do not have these freedoms in their home countries on account of their sexual and/or gender identities should be granted asylum.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. That this lack of support and services is often manifested in forced detentions and deportations, resulting in LGBTQI asylum seekers and refugees being subjected to violence and death in their home countries.
2. That much more should be done on the ground by NUS Scotland and UK LGBT Campaigns in providing visible support and campaigning for LGBTQI asylum seekers and refugees and their rights to safety and dignity.
3. That there is a need for NUS Scotland and UK LGBT Campaign to prioritise LGBTQI asylum seekers and refugees and their fight for justice.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. To mandate NUS Scotland LGBT to work with NUS Scotland's Asylum Seeker & Refugee Officer on tackling issues for LGBTQI asylum seekers and refugees.
2. To mandate NUS Scotland to work collaboratively with NUS UK LGBT Campaign to openly guide students' unions in getting involved with LGBTQI asylum-related activism.
3. To mandate NUS Scotland to work with NUS UK LGBT Campaign to use its resources to raise awareness of the campaigns and demonstrations organised in support of LGBTQI asylum seekers and refugees.

### **Gender neutral toilets and changing facilities**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. That there are students within and outside of the LGBT+ community who prefer to use gender neutral toilets and changing rooms or for whom gendered toilets are inappropriate because they do not identify with either male or female.

2. That in most places of higher and further education, there are few to no gender neutral facilities for students to use.

**Conference believed:**

1. That inadequate provision of gender neutral toilets for trans and other students who are uncomfortable or who feel unsafe using gendered facilities limits their ability to participate in their education, sport and other aspects of life.
2. That 'accessible' facilities do not constitute adequate provision for those students unless they are available for all genders and abilities to use, and that re-purposing these toilets as gender neutral toilets for all students would limit the use of accessible facilities for those who need them, unless all available toilets are accessible.
3. That students who require gender neutral facilities should not be expected to go further than those who do not or to declare themselves to have access to adequate gender neutral facilities.
4. That universities and colleges which do not provide these facilities are failing to meet the needs of trans\* and other students who need them.
5. That no student, regardless of sex, gender or gender expression should be required to use gender neutral facilities in place of available gendered facilities should they not wish to, and that no student of any sex, gender or gender expression should be prevented from using gender neutral toilets or changing rooms.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To campaign for gender neutral toilets and changing rooms in all buildings where their gendered equivalent currently exists, and to ensure these facilities are open and available to students of all genders and gender expressions.

**CW/TW: discusses mental health**

**Psychology: including those most at risk**

**Conference noted:**

1. Research suggests that LGBT people have a higher risk of mental health issues.
2. The majority of psychological studies are Hetero-normative and are almost all cis-normative and binary gendered or assume participants are cisgender.
3. The British Psychological Society (BPS), released a personal statement saying 'people of same-sex sexual orientations' and 'people of all *genders* and *identities* should be regarded as equal members of society'.
4. BPS has recently looked into altering its undergraduate accreditation but only mentioned 'sexual difference' once.
5. In February 2012, BPS created a working group to review the guidelines for working therapeutically with sexual and gender minority clients.

**Conference believed:**

1. LGBT students and the LGBT community have a right to a good standard mental health, mental health care and psychological understanding.
2. The LGBT participants should be free from a need to conform to cis-gendered and hetero-normative standards to be part of a psychological study.

3. Sexuality and gender minority related and inclusive study is not represented until a postgraduate or even research employment level.
4. Undergraduates need to be trained to be more inclusive to tackle the issue at an early level.
5. More research into mental health issues and their effects within the LGBT community is something that is needed more and more.
6. BPS has made the first steps into being more inclusive but needs a lot of work and support.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. Work with BPS to help improve the psychology curriculum for accredited courses.
2. Work with BPS to improve the different branches of psychology which are designed to provide services to LGBT students and the community.
3. Gather evidence and knowledge to help put pressure on these services, if discussion is in effective.

### **Sex and relationship education**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. Sex education in schools (where it happens) enforces heteronormative ideologies and cements societal views around gender and sexual identity.
2. Currently sex education does not talk about relationships and does not cover the importance of consent.
3. Consent affects everyone no matter your sexual and/or gender identity.
4. The experiences and issues of LGBTQI people are erased from sex education and do not take into account the diverse backgrounds of students and staff within their institutions.
5. Sexual activities affects everyone in different ways no matter your sexual and/or your gender identity.
6. Sex education should be inclusive and representative of the student body. Equipping them with the knowledge of safe and healthy sex whether in a relationship or not.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. The current system in place is insufficient and fails those students who identify as LGBTQI.
2. The Curriculum for Excellence allows Schools to ignore LGBTQI issues.
3. NUS Scotland needs to get back to doing work on 'Liberating the Curriculum'.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. To mandate the LGBT Campaign to work with the Women's Campaign and the VP Education on their work on sex and relationship education.
2. To mandate the LGBT Campaign to support and work alongside the Women's Campaign and the VP Education to lobby the Scottish Government to introduce legislation surrounding sex and relationship education.
3. To help create resources for students' associations/Unions to run campaigns locally and to support LGBTQI groups who want to work on this campaign.

## **Trans\* & Intersex Student Gathering**

### **Conference noted:**

1. This year, NUS Scotland LGBT held the first ever Trans\* & Intersex Student Gathering.
2. This event was an opportunity for those who self-define to come together with like-minded people in a safe space environment.
3. This was an opportunity to have discussions on issues led by those who self-define to help shape and direct the direction of the campaign.

### **Conference believed:**

1. It is crucial for the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign to provide a platform where students who self-define can feed into the campaign and help shape the work we do.
2. By providing this event, it will mean more people can then get involved with the campaign and our membership grows.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. To mandate the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign to make the Trans\* & Intersex Student Gathering an annual event.
2. To provide appropriate support to ensure that delegates can attend the event.
3. To ensure that the event is not always based in Edinburgh but to be around the country in appropriate venues that meet the needs of students who will attend.

## **The NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign**

### **Conference noted:**

1. Ever since this movement began we have changed our name to become more inclusive, from the Gay Rights Movement, to the LGB Movement, to the LGBT Movement.
2. Last year NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign and the NUS UK LGBT Campaign both debated to change its name to become more inclusive.
3. A majority of the NUS UK LGBT Conference voted for its name to be changed to the NUS UK LGBT+ Campaign but it didn't pass because it wasn't a two thirds majority.

### **Conference believed:**

1. The NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign should be as inclusive as possible of the people it represents. This goes beyond lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans\* people but to people who self-define as a-sexual, a gendered, poly-sexual, queer and much more who may not define under any of the umbrella definitions.
2. There is an argument to be had that if there are members that we represent who aren't reflected in our name, then how can we claim to be truly inclusive?

### **Conference resolved:**

1. To change our name to the NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign.
2. The Campaign will change the name of all of its relevant structures and positions to reflect its new name. For example the LGBT Officer will be now called the LGBT+ Officer/ the LGBT Committee will now be called the LGBT+ Committee.

## **Recognising non-binary gender identities**

### **Conference believed:**

1. Legislation in the United Kingdom recognises only two genders: "female" and "male".
2. Most institutions, organisations, groups and individuals recognise only two genders: "female" and "male".
3. All of us are frequently presented with forms that ask us if we are female or male.
4. Some people are neither female, nor male.
5. Some universities and colleges allow students' sex or gender to be either recorded as a third option or withheld, however many do not.
6. NUS UK has worked with UCAS, on this issue. However, in Scotland, applications to college are handled by the individual colleges.

### **Conference further believed:**

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

### **Conference resolved:**

1. To lobby the Scottish Government to recognise the existence of non-binary gender identities.
2. To lobby equality organisations (such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission) that pursue trans rights agendas to fully incorporate non-binary issues into their work.
3. To lobby colleges to provide additional gender options.
4. To work for the recognition of non-binary identities in all areas of public life, including education, healthcare, and the media.
5. To support student activists and LGBT societies who wish to lobby their Unions or institutions on non-binary issues, such as the inclusion of more than two genders on records and application forms.

6. To fight against the de facto collection of title and gender as mandatory fields on forms when it is not relevant nor absolutely necessary for the provision of the service offered by the data handler.
7. To provide a toolkit to aid student activists who wish to make such changes, containing for example, information countering common arguments given by universities and colleges against such changes.
8. To mandate the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer to work with NUS Scotland, and through its democratic processes, to ensure all of its policies and constitution contain only gender neutral pronouns, without changing the meaning of those policies and constitution.

## **CW/TW: violence towards LGBT+ People**

### **Let's stand up to Russia**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. There have been countless amounts of examples of how the Russian Government has victimised its people.
2. Laws preventing trans\* people driving, the expression of anything that isn't heteronormative and nothing is being done about the mercenary groups that go to hunt people that are LGBT+.
3. There are appalling anti-LGBTQ laws and practices in place in many other European countries as well, especially in the countries of Eastern Europe (former Soviet Union).
4. Many European countries are taking a disturbingly pro-Russian approach in the LGBTQ issues, following Russia's lead in the anti-LGBTQ tendencies<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. Enough is enough, laws in Russia are getting worse and as a result more and more LGBT+ Russians go missing each day.
2. The current measures are not enough and more must be done.
3. Since there are agreements in place between Scotland and EU granting access to free education to EU students, there is a large population of international students from European countries.
4. Many of those students have to face awful homophobia, biphobia and/or transphobia when they return to their home countries.
5. NUS Scotland should show solidarity with students and LGBTQ people who are threatened by this growing trend of hostility in aforementioned European countries.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. NUS Scotland LGBT Committee and Committee-elect must start designing a campaign against the direction of the Russian government.
2. There should be a reasonable amount of time given to plan and develop this campaign but it should be launched as soon as possible.

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<sup>1</sup> to name a few: a referendum to outlaw same-sex marriage and adoption that took place in Slovakia this year, or implementing of Russia-like anti-propaganda laws in Ukraine and Belarus.

3. NUS Scotland LGBT Committee and the Committee-elect must consider boycotting goods, imposing further sanctions, getting public figures on side to stand against the Russian Government and more to be built into this campaign.
4. For the NUS Scotland LGBT Committee and Committee-elect to promote LGBTQ rights in Europe and publicly declare support to the local LGBTQ activist groups.
5. For the NUS Scotland LGBT Committee and Committee-elect to work with other European activist groups like ILGA-Europe and campaign on improvement of human rights of LGBTQ people, as outlined by studies such as the rainbow index<sup>2</sup>.

### **At least vampires don't discriminate...**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. Despite a recent law change, men who have sex with men cannot give blood until a year after they've had sex.
2. There is also a year ban for women as well if they have had sex with a man who has slept with another man.
3. Donated blood is always screened for viruses regardless of who gives it.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. A change in law from a life time ban to a one year ban isn't good enough.
2. This law is outdated and therefore doesn't deserve a place in Scotland.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. The NUS Scotland LGBT committee must develop a campaign and lobby relevant bodies to overturn the one year ban for men who have sex with men and for women who have had sex with a man who has slept with another man.
2. This campaign should be considered as one of the major campaigns run by NUS Scotland LGBT for the year of 2015/16.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.ilga-europe.org/home/publications/reports\\_and\\_other\\_materials/rainbow\\_europe](http://www.ilga-europe.org/home/publications/reports_and_other_materials/rainbow_europe)



### Using our efforts for support

#### Conference noted:

1. The commercialisation of pride has increased over the past decade due to buy in from huge corporate companies using pride for profit.
2. This has resulted a change of language from march to parade, from protest to festival.
3. Some have introduced fees in partaking in pride, which has created barriers to LGBT+ people.

#### Conference believed:

1. Pride is a protest.
2. Pride should be free to partake in.
3. The commercialisation of pride does not truly benefit the LGBT+ movement, it only benefits corporate companies.
4. The commercialisation of pride does not help the LGBT+ movement advance its agenda.
5. The commercialisation of pride should be stopped.

#### Conference resolved:

1. To publicly oppose the commercialisation of Pride and support the alternative Free Pride events that are being set up instead.

### Ace Inquisition

#### Conference notes:

1. That there is currently a lack of research into other sexualities or gender identities such as those that would identify into the '+'
2. That there are barriers for participation in place for those members who identify into the '+'

#### Conference believes:

1. That NUS Scotland LGBT+ should be a body that promotes inclusivity for all sexualities and gender identities

#### Conference resolves:

1. That the NUS Scotland LGBT+ campaign should conduct thorough research into sexualities and gender identities that are not in L, G, B or T
2. That the NUS Scotland LGBT+ campaign will work with Students' Associations across Scotland to promote groups/societies either in their Students' Association or wider local community
3. That the NUS Scotland LGBT+ campaign will work to increase the representation of those who identify into the '+'

## **Setting the record straight on the Trans Officer and an Autonomous Trans Campaign motion.**

### **Conference noted:**

1. That the NUS LGBT+ national conference 2016 and the first ever democratic NUS Trans conference 2015 voted unanimously in support of a full time paid Trans Officer and autonomous Trans campaign.
2. Due to the need to address the underrepresentation of women, the NUS LGBT+ campaign has two elected full-time officers.
3. That this motion would create an autonomous Campaign separate from the LGBT+ campaign and other liberation campaigns within NUS.

### **Conference believed:**

1. That the NUS has a duty to represent and listen to its trans students, who have so far been underrepresented in senior roles in the NUS.
2. That trans people face significant discrimination both in UK law and society.
3. That trans people, especially those who transition whilst still in school face unacceptable barriers to their education.
4. That transphobia and transmisogyny impact the physical, mental and economic wellbeing of trans people, during and outside of education.
5. That a full time trans officer would enable the NUS to better represent trans students.
6. That regional representatives for Scotland should this motion pass have a duty to campaign FOR a full time paid trans officer and associated campaigns.
7. The idea of negative effects on nation's students has been wrongly used, by a small minority in the past, as a way of preventing the creation of a Trans officer position.
8. A show of support by the NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign will help to prevent this argument from being used again at NUS National Conference 2016, and if used, help challenge this argument.
9. A full time Trans Officer and Autonomous Trans Campaign will help represent all Trans Students, including those studying in Scotland.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. To pass this motion as a public show of support from the NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign, as a Nations LGBT+ Campaign, for a full time Trans Officer and Autonomous Trans Campaign in addition to the exist NUS National Liberation campaigns.
2. To mandate the NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign, its Officer and Committee Members to publicly support Motion 702 at NUS UK National Conference which calls for a full-time paid NUS Trans Officer and an autonomous Trans Liberation Campaign

## **Let's get pronouns down to a "T"**

### **Conference noted:**

1. Staff are not properly trained and sensitive to the use of correct pronouns at the University of Stirling and this may be an issue at other institutions. LGBT+ groups should be more supported and better equipped to tackle these issues.

2. Trans+ and non-binary students while at college/university have a right to have their correct pronouns.
3. The burden should not fall on trans+ and non-binary students to educate institutional staff about transitioning and trans+ issues. Staff and other students need to be trained on sensitivity and inclusivity.
4. In November 2014 the NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign published "Supporting trans students" in which a number of recommendations are made to improve the lives of trans+ students studying in Scotland: <http://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/nusdigital/document/documents/11703/0f69a1f52a1f735cfb65d8d417944a69/Support-for-trans-students-Nov-2014.pdf>

#### **Conference believed:**

1. Use of correct pronouns is a basic right.
2. Using names and pronouns properly when speaking with Trans+ and non-binary students is crucial to their mental health, wellbeing and sense of belonging.
3. "Supporting trans students" has provided a foundation for institutions to continue to develop a positive and inclusive experience for trans+ and non-binary students.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. For NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign to review how the recommendations of "Supporting trans+ students" have been implemented across Scotland.
2. NUS Scotland LGBT+ Campaign to support the development of materials for students' unions/associations for use in awareness raising campaigns.
3. Education of staff and students on LGBT terminology is vital. NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign should work with LGBT charities and the government to create a toolkit for Unions/Associations to ask for more comprehensive training for institution staff on trans+ and non-binary issues.

### **#WELLGBT #SP16 Improved mental health provision for LGBT+ students as part of #SP16.**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. LGBT+ people are more at risk of experiencing ill mental health and mental health provision is often inadequate in dealing with the specific needs of LGBT+ students.
2. Even where services may be adequate LGBT+ students are often unaware of mental health services available to them. This is because of a lack of dedicated services for LGBT+ students.
3. As part of #SP16 NUS Scotland will call on the Scottish Government for "Better support for students' with mental ill health" <http://shapingscotlandsfuture.org/>

#### **Conference believed:**

1. LGBT+ students are entitled to adequate mental health provision that meets their needs.
2. LGBT+ students are entitled to be fully aware of the services that may be available to them already.
3. LGBT+ students' mental health issues can be very complex and provision specifically for them is very important.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. LGBT+ students' mental health should be an important and distinct part of "Better support for students with mental ill health" in Shaping Scotland's Future.
2. For NUS Scotland to work with the appropriate charities and organisations as well as student unions/associations to put pressure on the government on increasing provision for mental health – and to draw specific attention to the more complex needs of LGBT+ students.

## **We love democracy part 2**

### **Conference noted:**

1. This year only 6 motions were submitted to NUS Scotland LGBT+ Conference. Deadlines are only advertised on the conference page itself.
2. Many students do not access these themselves before the conference and are registered by their union.

### **Conference believed:**

1. The deadlines should be more visible in order to give students more opportunities to take part in the conference..
2. This is especially an issue for disabled students, such as with memory problems, and students buys in other activism outside university and NUS.
3. NUS should encourage more involvement with the conferences.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. For NUS Scotland LGBT+ to advertise their deadlines in emails to Scotland's LGBT+ groups, especially for motions and registration, and in relevant Facebook groups.
2. For an email list to be set up for past attendees, that they can voluntarily sign up to in order to receive the deadlines per email.

## **Let's be leaders**

### **Conference noted:**

1. That for far too long NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign has gone unnoticed in the wider LGBT Campaign community.
2. That NUS Scotland LGBT has focused on community issues such as the Blood Ban and Equal Marriage.

### **Conference believed:**

1. That the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign could be so much more successful and well-known, if it was to interact with the LGBT campaigning community, such as LGBT Youth and Gay Men's Health.
2. That the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign, with the Officer and Committee, could become leaders in LGBT-based research projects.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. That NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign should interact with the wider LGBT community whenever it can, attending events run by organisations such as LGBT Youth

Scotland, Gay Men's Health etc. and ensuring that the Officer and Committee become sector leaders in representing and campaigning for LGBT people.

2. That NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign should work to become leaders in research, and evidence-led campaigning within the LGBT community.

### **Representing Black LGBT members**

#### **Conference believed:**

1. The NUS Scotland LGBT Committee is already made up of seven people including the officer.
2. A large amount of campaign money goes on expenses.
3. Due to financial constraints our budget is likely to be smaller next year.
4. Representation of other liberation campaigns on our committee is key to our success.

#### **Conference further believed:**

1. Increasing the committee from seven to eight will further increase expenses expenditure.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. To reserve a place on the NUS Scotland Committee for a self-defining black student, should such a person stand.

## **2017**

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### **The next knot to TIE**

#### **Conference noted:**

4. The (Time for Inclusive Education) TIE campaign is making great leaps to improve LGBT+ education for students and staff in Primary and Secondary Education.
5. There is no such scheme in place for FE/HE to carry on these efforts.
6. Students and Staff from other countries may not have LGBT+ inclusive education at all due to difference in progressiveness of the LGBT+ rights in their respective countries.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. It is important to continue the efforts of the TIE campaign in FE/HE sectors.
2. Educating people is an effective way in lowering bigotry and microaggressions against marginalized students.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. Develop or adapt toolkits for LGBT+ inclusive staff training for FE/HE institutions.
2. Lobby FE/HE institutions to use these toolkits regularly for all staff.
3. Lobby FE/HE institutions to include LGBT+ inclusive briefing during their induction events for first years, along the usual sex/drug safety talks already in place.

## **Involve Our Students**

### **Conference noted:**

1. There is lack of resources for societies to use in engaging new students.
2. There is lack of training/guidance in keeping societies relevant and keep up the existing membership.
3. The existing resources provided by NUS are difficult to find and poorly advertised to wider student population.
4. There is a lack of interest in NUS from wider student population

### **Conference believed:**

1. Without students, the movement can never be effective or relevant.
2. There are a lot of ways to engage wider student populations (e.g. social media, relevant courses)
3. Elected LGBT+ society leaders in individual unions are usually volunteers who must balance course work (and often even part/full time job to support themselves) they do not have the capacity to look for resources they often do not know even existed.
4. Each LGBT+ officer in each affiliated union, FE or HE, should know and hear from their elected committee – and not just once per year.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. To form a better networking platform than the existing NUS webpage – preferable on facebook or google drive – one that is accessible and easy to use.
2. To raise awareness on NUS and the resources already available to support volunteers in individual unions.
3. To explore ways of involving individual student unions and more students across Scotland, and to report back to the Unions on the results.

## **Support EU Students**

### **Conference noted:**

1. On 23rd of June 2016, the Brexit campaign won the referendum.
2. This does not reflect the views of Scottish people or our student movement.

### **Conference believed:**

1. The Brexit campaign and vote was a disgraceful showcase of hate and xenophobia.
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, as deportation would affect them disproportionately to their cis/straight counterparts.
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. And to ensure that our LGBT+ EU students feel safe and don't have to fear over deportation and their ability to carry on with their education.

### **Conference resolved:**

1. To closely follow the political happenings at Westminster and respond to any continued attacks and scaremongering done by the May lead Tory government.
2. To issue statements in response to any troubling development, and cooperate with individual student unions to help them support their student body.
3. To lobby government to ensure continued protection of rights of EU students.

### **We don't actually have a non-binary rep.**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. We don't have a position on the NUS Scotland LGBT+ committee reserved for a non-binary representative as of NUS Scotland LGBT+ conference 2017
2. NUS LGBT+ committee already has a position reserved for a non-binary person.
3. Non-binary people face significant barriers that are different to those that binary identified trans people are subject to.
4. Whilst a non-binary inclusive definition of trans is to be both used and encouraged, many non-binary people still don't feel included in the trans campaign or feel as though they are intruding.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. Non-binary people are included under the T and plus, but are not guaranteed representation on the committee.
2. Non-binary people have the right to a representative on a committee intended to represent and liberate them.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. To ensure that the trans and non-binary representatives and caucuses are complementary to one another and utilise a non-binary inclusive definition of trans.

### **Representation in the N-ace-ions**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. NUS LGBT+ committee has already got an ace rep.
2. Asexual and aromantic spectrum identities (this includes and is not limited to asexual, demisexual, greysexual, aromantic and demiromantic and grey-aromantic) are included within the plus
3. There is very poor public awareness of the existence, needs and oppression of ace and aro spectrum identities.
4. An estimated 1% of the population identify as asexual<sup>3</sup>, while the number of people who identify as aromantic is unknown - this is due to lack of public awareness of the orientation and a lack of academic research.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. Asexual and aromantic spectrum people should have representation on a committee which is supposed to fight for their liberation.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-16552173>

2. Ace and aro spectrum people have specific oppressions and needs with regards to their liberation
3. NUS live policy includes ace/aro awareness and an ace/aro rep would be able to ensure such policy is enacted faithfully.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To create an environment where ace and aro spectrum people feel welcome and represented at NUS Scotland LGBT+ conferences, and in our campaigns.

**I Motion: Trans Healthcare is a Right**

**Conference noted:**

1. Transgender and non-binary individuals experience disproportionately high rates of mental illness and a high risk of suicide.
2. Many transgender people have had to educate medical professionals about transgender issues.

**Conference believed:**

1. Access to transition-related healthcare is essential to the physical and mental health of trans people who require it, and should be fully covered and easily available through the NHS.
2. Transition-related healthcare services should meet the needs of transgender and non-binary individuals rather than act as a barrier to receiving treatment.
3. Trans and non-binary people should be able to access non-transition-related healthcare without being alienated, interrogated, or treated as an exhibit.
4. Waiting times for transition-related healthcare are unacceptably long, especially for trans and gender-non-conforming children undergoing puberty.
5. Trans and gender-non-conforming children should have access to hormone blockers from any age, and without needing the permission of a guardian provided they are old enough to give informed consent.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To campaign to reform the current NHS Gender Reassignment Protocol
  - For easier access to hormones and surgery, without requiring a person take testosterone before top surgery.
  - For facial feminisation surgeries and face augmentation to be available on the NHS.
  - For hormone blocker to be available to gender-non-conforming children from local endocrinologists at any age, in line with their ability to prescribe these hormones to children with precocious puberty.
2. To advocate for the increase in availability of mental health services for trans and non-binary people and their families, which cater to their specific needs, and work with organisations that offer these services
3. Continuing to work with Action for Trans Health.
4. Create a wiki type inventory of transgender/non-binary friendly GPs in Scotland

**Bi The Way, it's 2017**



#### **Conference noted:**

1. That the NUS LGBT+ conference 2017 voted to rename the Bi caucus and representative to Bi+.
2. That the Bi representative for NUS Scotland LGBT+ committee is explicitly required to be bisexual, unlike the NUS LGBT+ committee.
3. That many SAs and societies have renamed their representatives and subgroups.
4. That research and campaigns focus largely on bisexuals, resulting in a deficit of information and awareness of other identities.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. That the intention of the motion at NUS LGBT+ 2017 was to be more inclusive, but that many of those it was meant to represent did not think it was inclusive enough.
2. That unofficially, other identities experiencing romantic, sexual and other attractions have been a part of the bisexual caucus since it first began.
3. That anyone experiencing any form of attraction to multiple genders should be able to find representation within what is currently the bisexual caucus.

#### **Conference resolved:**

1. To rename the bisexual representative and caucus the "Bi and Pan +" representative and caucus.
2. To ensure that all documents use "Bi and Pan +".
3. To define "Bi and Pan +" as referring to anyone attracted to multiple genders, including bi-, pan-, poly-, omni-, -romantic or -sexual, queer (and attracted to multiple genders), and those with more complex identities should they wish to be included, such as those experiencing romantic and sexual attraction to different genders.
4. To interpret policy in an inclusive manner.
5. To campaign for public awareness of other identities experiencing attraction to multiple genders.
6. To campaign for those doing research into the welfare of bisexual people to include and acknowledge those included within our definition of Bi and Pan +.

### **Inclusive Drug Policy**

#### **Conference noted:**

1. Use of (illegal) recreational drugs is higher among LGBT+ people than their straight/cis peers.
2. 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.

#### **Conference believed:**

1. 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 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.

2. 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.
3. Drug use isn't always recreational, and can be used to deal with (among others) chronic illness and/or pain and/or trauma.
4. The War on Drugs in the UK has failed.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To argue that drug usage and substance dependence should be treated as 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 fear mongering around drug use.
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 drugs can be tested confidentially, freely, and without fear of persecution.
5. 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

**Paid LGBT Officer**

**Conference believed:**

1. That the workload of the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign has increased significantly over the past two years to deal with many projects and campaigns.
2. That the capacity of the campaign should be maintained and increased to ensure that projects and campaigns continue to be innovative and sector-leading.
3. That over the past year the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer has worked full time for the campaign, whilst taking a year out of study and subsidising a wage with a part-time job.
4. That no student should be expected to compromise their study to take up post as the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer.

**Conference further believed:**

1. That there should be no barriers preventing students from running as the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer.
2. That no student elected as the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer should be expected to compromise study or employment to carry out the role.
3. That the position of NUS Scotland LGBT Officer should be paid as a part-time officer to ensure that any student carrying out the role is appropriately funded to continue in education and in the role.
4. That the NUS Board of Trustees accept the conclusion of the LGBT Campaign Reform consultation and the decision of the NUS Scotland LGBT Conference and implement this policy.

**Conference resolved:**

1. To strongly request that the NUS Board of Trustees looks at all options for the inclusion of funds to the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign which can be used to fund a part-time officer
2. That such options should be returned to the NUS Scotland LGBT Committee.
3. That the NUS Scotland LGBT Committee shall have the authority to choose which option will best allow the part-time officer and not affect the running the Campaign.

## **Health and wellbeing**

### **Conference believed:**

1. The Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH)'s report 'There's More to Me' which concludes that LGBT people are at significantly higher risk of mental disorder, social isolation and self harm than heterosexual people.
2. In Stonewall's 'Prescription for Change' report (2008) in which half of interviewed women had had negative experiences in the health sector, despite the fact it is unlawful to discriminate against lesbians and bisexual women.
3. That NUS Scotland has successfully brought LGBT Mental Health and Sexual Health to the forefront of the political agenda.

### **Conference further believed:**

1. That studying at university or college is often the first time that many LGBT students are away from home, many will need to find new support networks and/or access welfare services.
2. That LGBT societies are often the first port of call for LGBT students looking for support and/or welfare services and this is one of the key roles that LGBT societies can offer to their members.
3. That some LGBT societies may not know how to correctly respond to or address these issues and/or signpost their members to other suitable services.
4. That many HE institutions have their own student health centres and counselling services which should be fully aware and supportive of specific issues that might arise as the result of a student being LGBT.
5. That many FE institutions have either no or limited student health support services and therefore should have good signposting in place.
6. The consequence of cuts to welfare services, which specifically support the LGBT community, will be detrimental to LGBT individuals long term.

### **Conference resolved:**

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

5. To resist Government cuts to welfare services that specifically support or benefit the LGBT community.
6. To continue with Health & Wellbeing as a priority for the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign