



**LGBT Campaign Policy  
2010-2012**



national union of students

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## Policy

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## Purpose of this document

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

The Committee reports back on the resolutions of the previous Conference in its report to LGBT Conference Conference, but does not have to mention policy from the preceding meetings.

## Policy Lapse

Policy Lapses in 2 circumstances

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

Policy passed at Conference 2010 will lapse at the end of LGBT Conference 2013.

## What you need to do

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

If you require this document in an alternative format contact [dan.francis@nus.org.uk](mailto:dan.francis@nus.org.uk)

## Policy Passed at LGBT Conference 2010

### Zone Welfare & Student Rights

#### Heading: Fighting the BNP

Conference believed:

1. That the British National Party is a fascist organisation that stands for an all white, all straight Britain.
2. Mark Collett, former chairman of the Young BNP, described homosexuals as "AIDS Monkeys", "bum bandits" and "faggots" and said the idea of homosexuality was a "sickening thought".
3. Phil Edwards, BNP National Press Officer said that homosexuality led to 'moral turpitude and disease,' and that it should be 'returned to the closet where it belongs.'
4. That the BNP is a violent organisation with leading members being convicted of violent hate crimes and possession of explosives.
5. Research shows that wherever the BNP are active, hate crimes rise.
6. That the BNP should have no place on our campuses, in our council chambers and on our streets.
7. That in the last year we have seen the rise of the national 'defence Leagues'
8. That these organisations consist of a motley crew of BNP activists, football hooligans and violent bigots
9. That they have attempted, sometimes successfully, to attack those from minority backgrounds, including Muslims and LGBT people as well as anti fascists.
10. That in Stoke and Luton they rampaged, attacking Asian owned properties and spraying pigs blood on the homes of Muslim people
11. That in Leeds several supporters of the EDL ran through the LGBT area of the city in masks hurling abuse and glass bottles at passers by.
12. That despite attempts by the BNP to distance themselves from the defence leagues, senior BNP members have played a leading role in organising the violent demonstrations
13. That the rise of the defence leagues coincides with a dramatic jump in LGBT-phobic attacks including several murders and countless assaults.
14. That the rise of the defence leagues follows the breakthrough election of two BNP MEPs
15. The English defence league (EDL) has actively approached LGBTQ organisation such as Queer Youth Network with the intention uniting us to fight Islam.
16. Members of Queer Youth Network have argued against the EDL position on Islam, calling it out as a bigot and hateful
17. That all 3 main political parties are promising public spending cuts due to the bank bailout
18. That we have also seen a wave of reaction and prejudice accompany the recession following a historic pattern
19. including a large rise in homophobic attacks, attacks on a woman's right to choose and the growth of the Nazi BNP and the racist English Defence League
20. That there has been resistance to these attacks including thousands strong marches against homophobia, a vibrant Abortion Rights Campaign a 900 strong Right to Work rally.

Conference further believed:

1. That stopping the BNP getting elected should be a central plank of our anti-fascist work.
2. That most people abhor the BNP and their prejudiced lies but history has shown that during times of economic downturn, support for fascism rises.
3. That BNP successes would represent a direct threat to minority communities.
4. That it is vital that these minorities work together and with their straight and white allies in a united fight against fascism.
5. That NUS LGBT should play an active role in Unite Against Fascism and work closely with Love Music Hate Racism.
6. That the election of two BNP MEP's has given confidence to fascists to come onto the streets in numbers not seen for over 30 years
7. That preventing the BNP from taking advantage of the publicity and resources provided by elected office remains a key plank of anti fascist activity
8. That celebrating and defending our diverse communities by counter demonstrating BNP and defence league rallies is key to showing the unity in practice that can drive back the fascist threat.
9. That it is important that we offer positive solutions to the crisis to give people confidence and hope
10. This can help people defend their jobs but also foster a sense of unity between different people which can serve as a weapon against those who wish to divide us on grounds of race, sexuality, gender etc including the BNP and EDL
11. That it is vital as a liberation movement we fight on the issues important to our sisters in the Women's movement including defending a woman's right to choose

12. That it is of the utmost importance that the priorities of our movement and the politics of our campaign are at the heart organisations like the Right to Work campaign which are aiming to bring together everyone who opposes cuts from pensioners campaigns to trade unions and from disability advocacy groups to LGBT people.

Conference resolved:

1. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should take a part in education students about the threat of fascist parties in the run-up to the general and local elections.
2. To work closely with UAF and LMHR supporting initiatives and events and producing joint publicity helping to alert the LGBT student community to the BNP threat.
3. To work with LMHR to organise more Love Music Hate Homophobia events.
4. To reaffirm our opposition to the BNP and all they believe.
5. To re-affiliate to Unite Against Fascism (UAF)
6. To build on the successes of Love Music Hate Homophobia by collaborating further with UAF and Love Music Hate Racism to formalise LMHR ensuring NUS LGBT is at the heart of the initiative
7. To work with other liberation campaigns and non defining allies in NUS, trade unions and civil society to help combat fascism
8. To include further 'LGBT and Anti-Fascism' workshops at officer and activist training events
9. To mandate the NUS LGBT Committee to work with other organisations to create an Activist Tool Kit to Anti-Fascist Activism
10. To strongly oppose all attempts the fascist organisation to enlist our support for Islamophobia.
11. To Affiliate to the Right to Work Campaign at a cost of £30
12. To support the National Demonstration outside the conference of whichever party wins the general election in Autumn 2010 raising the slogans 'We won't pay for their Crisis,' 'Stop Homophobic Attacks - No Concessions to the BNP' and 'Defend a Woman's Right to Choose.'

#### **Motion no: 202**

Conference believed:

1. LGBTQ people often see faith, belief and religion as a threat due to the oppressive attitude of some religious leaders.
2. Anti-religious sentiments are all too common within LGBTQ communities.

Conference further believed:

1. Religion is not necessarily homophobic, biphobic, or transphobic.
2. There is a difference between the oppressive tactics of particular religious leaders and an individual's expression of their religious beliefs.
3. It is possible to disagree with an individual's faith-based political position without attacking their religious beliefs.
4. Opposing religious bigotry should never come at the expense of expressing solidarity with those who are oppressed because of their religious beliefs.
5. LGBTQ people have every right to feel comfortable talking about their religious beliefs within our communities.
6. It is time for LGBTQ communities to treat religious beliefs with the same respect we expect to be given to our sexual and romantic orientations and gender identities.
7. LGBTQ people who have faith or religious belief have the right to make decisions on their own behalf.

Conference resolved:

1. To fight the blind anti-religious sentiments found within LGBTQ communities.
2. The NUS LGBT Campaign will provide activists with arguments for expressing solidarity with people of faith when fighting fascism.
3. The NUS LGBT Campaign will properly consult with LGBTQ people from religious or faith communities before issuing statements on their behalf.

#### **Heading: HIV Treatments**

Conference believed:

1. That HIV transmissions are increasing amongst MSM (men who sleep with men) in the UK
2. That newer HIV Treatment has not only dramatically increased the life expectancy of HIV positive people, but also tends to have fewer side effects than older treatment

3. That we are about to see a raft of government cuts to equal out government debt saddled by bailing out the banks
4. That according to Lisa Power from the THT (Terrence Higgins Trust) "public health will be at the bottom of the pile when it comes to what the NHS will spend money on in hard economic times and sexual health will be at the bottom of that."

Conference further believed:

1. That effective HAART with the least possible side effects is the most cost effective treatment for HIV positive individuals as it increases drug adherence thereby keeping patients healthy and not in need of further medication or hospitalisation
2. That it is utterly unacceptable to make ordinary people pay for the bankers' crisis and it is particularly disgraceful when the government targets people with conditions who rely on the best medication for a better quality of life
3. That NUS LGBT alongside other organisations should be demanding transparency from the government in terms of where, when and how they plan to cut services for HIV people so that we can formulate campaigns against these cuts

Conference resolved:

1. To approach the THT and other related organisations to initiate a dossier on cuts that have already happened and potential cuts as predicted by HIV specialists
2. To contact Trade Union LGBT sections and National TUs who represent workers in the healthcare sector to see how we can work alongside each other to bring together forces who could play a part in raising awareness of and fighting back against any cuts

### **Heading: Support LGBT Workers**

Conference believed:

1. Many students have to get part time work in order to be able to afford tuition fees and living costs.
2. Many students are not aware of their rights at work and are not a member of a Trade Union.
3. That many LGBT people including LGBT students will get jobs in 'gay scenes', particularly in bars and clubs

Conference further believed:

1. Students can face homophobia and discrimination in the work place, from fellow workers and their bosses
2. Students can be a easy target for some bosses who can make them work long shifts with too few breaks.
3. Despite a boss or workplace being LGBT, LGBT workers can still face discrimination and poor working conditions.
4. The trade union UNITE recently ran a campaign to try and unionise workers in Manchester's 'gay village', partly due to reports of some poor working conditions.

Conference resolved:

1. To work with trade unions to produce a small guide to LGBT rights at work.
2. To continue and extend our joint work with Trade Unions.
3. To encourage and support LGBT groups to take part in campaigns to unionise staff on gay scenes.

### **Heading: Experiencing work, not discrimination**

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

#### **Heading: Healthy FE**

Conference believed:

1. In 2008, former minister Bill Rammell, introduced the National Healthy FE initiative
2. This is aimed to particularly benefit young people in colleges and sixth forms coping with the transition to adulthood.
3. The initiative is there to provide colleges with tools and support to address the health and wellbeing needs of each student, and even staff members.
4. Various QUANGOs (quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisations) support this initiative and have developed online tools to support colleges.
5. It isn't about creating something new: it's about working with FE providers to make the health and wellbeing of staff and students an integral part of all aspects of life in FE.

Conference further believed:

1. Colleges need this initiative to build on their own resources, or lack of, to encourage students to be healthy and look after their own wellbeing.
2. LGBT students in FE are often coming to terms with their own identity and colleges have a duty and moral responsibility to give these students the most support they can.
3. Some colleges are better at doing this than others and as a National Campaign we should ensure that all colleges are doing their best to look after our members' health and wellbeing.
4. Colleges including York College, Bradford College, Sunderland College and Wigan & Leigh College have seen their OfSTED grade go up, their student retention and achievement rates increase significantly since starting this programme.

Conference resolved:

1. NUS LGBT campaign to encourage colleges to get on board with this initiative and include a vast range of students in the process
2. NUS LGBT campaign to support students getting involved in their college's steering group for this initiative and ensure that LGBT students' voices are heard and catered for
3. NUS LGBT to include into the "Putting the LGBT into FE" briefing, a section on the Healthy FE initiative and how students can use it to influence their college on the LGBT agenda
4. NUS LGBT campaign to name and shame colleges that either has not got on board with this scheme or have failed to cater for LGBT students on campus.

## **Heading: Trans Inclusion in FE**

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

## **Heading: Liberate Prisons Now!**

Conference believes:

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

Conference further believed:

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

7. Failing to provide condoms encourages unsafe and irresponsible behaviour in practice.
8. That the existence of a Vulnerable Prisoners Unit does not provide a meaningful excuse for not combating homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in the wider prison.

Conference resolved:

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

#### **Heading: For a sensible approach to drugs**

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. To affiliate to Students for Sensible Drug Policy UK and work with them on appropriate campaigns.
2. To run a session on "drug use in the LGBT community" at NUS Activist Training Day.



3. To mandate the LGBT Officers to write to the Home Office asking for an impact assessment of drug prohibition on LGBT people.
4. To mandate the LGBT Officers to write to the Home Office calling for an evidence based approach to drug laws, focussing on harm reduction.

**Heading: Supporting Queer Homeless Youth**

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

**Heading: Welfare, not Arbitrary Restrictions**

Conference believed:

1. LGBT Students are more likely to get into financial difficulty at university due to higher rates of lack of financial support.
2. LGBT Students are more likely to be reliant on support from the students Loans Company.
3. This year the Students Loan Company have been a complete mess failing vulnerable students who haven't been able to access appropriate support from their universities either.

Conference further believed:

1. That many Universities block students' access to libraries and computer services as a result of late fees or any debt.
2. That students can't graduate whilst in debt to the university and so any further sanctions are arbitrary and serve no purpose but to damage students academic potential and ability to work.
3. Arbitrary restrictions on library and computer services adversely affect LGBT students as a result as they suffer disproportionately in terms of financial support. And puts a capitalist greed orientated edge to education rather than a student support focus.

Conference resolved:

1. To work with NUS HE and Welfare campaigns to lobby universities to end arbitrary restrictions to libraries and computer services to in debt students
2. To issue a statement concerning the practice condemning the restrictions
3. To encourage LGBT societies and officers to lobby their Student Unions to pass policy against these restrictions.

**Heading: LGBT-inclusive Personal Care**

Conference believed:

1. A motion was passed at the 2010 Disabled Students conference to run a campaign highlighting the difficulties disabled students find obtaining personal care.

2. The campaign also wants to set up a pilot telephone line for disabled students struggling with personal care, accommodation and financial issues

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

### **Heading: Homophobic Bullying in Schools and Colleges**

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

## **Zone Society & Citizenship**

### **Heading: Reclaim Pride**

Conference believed:

1. That pride is at its core a protest; prides were originally founded as protests for LGBT and Queer liberation.
2. Prides should be accessible and be community led, their agenda should be political and supportive, not profit making.
3. Many prides in the UK have become commercialised and are dominated by businesses. Some prides have little input, accountability or control from the LGBT community at large.
4. At many prides the political message has slowly vanished, whilst at others there have been examples of censorship. At Manchester Pride one year the organisers told a student group what slogans they were and were not allowed on their placards for their parade entry, at that same pride the organisers tried to remove some placards from the Queer Youth Network entry.
5. In Sydney Mardi Gras, there have been rumours of straight actors being paid to 'act gay' for the Ikea float.
6. The NUS LGBT Campaign usually has a strong presence at Pride in Brighton & Hove ("Brighton Pride").
7. This year Brighton Pride will be charging groups that wish to participate in the parade; the reason given is that the council will be charging Pride for playing music.

8. Entry fees for local LGBT or HIV voluntary groups and/or charities (including local branches of national groups) are £45 for an entry with no music, or £75 for an entry with music.
9. Entry fees for national LGBT or HIV voluntary groups and/or charities are £70 for an entry with no music, or £100 for an entry with music.
10. That Pride London is one of the largest FREE Prides in the UK.
11. That the NUS LGBT Campaign was not present at Pride London 2009 as it had organised committee training for that weekend.
12. That the Pride London Parade is an explosion of Pride in the heart of the capital, attracting over 500,000 people in a celebration of diversity.
13. That in the UK , Pride events and marches are organised in most major towns and cities
14. Around the world, and even in Europe, pride festivals, events and marches are often banned by local authorities
15. Where they are not outright banned, they are heavily attacked by protesters, fascist groups and even the police.
16. Pride marches are not just targeted with counter protests but with physical attack and state sanctioned violence.

Conference further believed:

1. That students have engaged in campaigning around Prides and have mobilised many students, such as events at Birmingham pride and 'Reclaim the Scene' at Manchester Pride.
2. After a couple of years of campaigning by students, youth groups and other activists, Manchester Pride has already made some changes, including the introduction of a section of the parade which anyone is free to join.
3. Actions and campaigning are already starting to get results, and with UNISON campaigning on the issue as well we have a real opportunity to achieve more wins.
4. Where there are incidents of homophobia and discrimination in areas, towns and cities without a pride festival then a pride should be organised to show the strength of the LGBT community.
5. Pride belongs to the people, not to commercial entities.
6. There is no reason for groups without music to subsidise those groups that do have music.
7. Whilst larger organisations such as the Labour Party can afford to pay the fees demanded by Brighton Pride, many voluntary organisations, student groups, trade unions, charities and smaller political groups will be unable to afford the fees being demanded by Brighton Pride for part.
8. There are other ways to raise funds for Pride, such as through seeking donations and organising fundraising events.
9. A protest against this policy may be organised by local groups.
10. That the NUS LGBT Campaign is the largest democratic LGBT campaign in Europe, and as such should have a presence at one of the largest FREE Pride events.
11. That other organisations and students noticed the absence of our campaign.
12. In recent years we have seen attacks on Pride events in Warsaw, Moscow, Riga, Vilnius, Belgrade and Budapest, and this is just in Europe alone.
13. That Baltic Pride is planned to take place in Vilnius, Lithuania on the same weekend as NUS LGBT Conference. If allowed to go ahead, it will be the first pride march the city has ever seen.
14. That as well as fighting for our own pride festivals be become protests, we must stand in solidarity with LGBT communities across the world

Conference resolved:

1. To continue the 'Pride is a Protest' campaign
2. To continue to oppose the charging for entry into a pride marches/parades.
3. To continue campaigning against the commercialisation of prides, and campaign for prides to be accessible and be community led.
4. To support prides where they exist even if we campaign against how they are organised, and support LGBT societies to engage at pride festivals
5. To work with trade unions and LGBT groups to create new pride festivals where there are none if there is the opportunity to.
6. To condemn Brighton Pride, and all other Pride parades and marches that charge voluntary organisations, student groups, trade unions, smaller political groups, charities, and ordinary LGBTQ people for entry.
7. To actively protest against entry charging and other disempowering policies whenever they occur at Pride events in which it participates.
8. The LGBT Campaign will support protests organised by others groups or campaigns, and will aim to follow the lead of local groups in doing so.
9. To support and promote (non-exploitative) fundraising activities for Pride events.
10. To mandate our LGBT Officers to attend Pride London.
11. That our LGBT Officers and Committee Members to take part in the Pride London Parade.

12. To have a NUS LGBT Campaign Stall in the Community section of Pride London.
13. To campaign for active student involvement in the planning and execution of Pride London.
14. That Committee training not be scheduled during the weekend of Pride London.
15. That the NUS LGBT Campaign tries to organise an event in the two week Pride London Festival.
16. As part of the Love Without Borders campaign, the NUS LGBT campaign should be campaigning for Pride Without Borders, standing in solidarity with pride marches across the world
17. To give our full support to Baltic Pride and send a message of solidarity to the organisers
18. Where pride marches are banned, to mobilise and campaign for them to be allowed to take place through direct action and lobbying.
19. To put pressure on European institutions to ensure no country in the Council of Europe is violating the human rights of LGBTQ people to hold pride marches.

**Heading: Love without Borders**

Conference believed:

1. That this year NUS LGBT continued work on Internationalism, and the Love without Borders campaign, for the third successive year.
2. This included; a demonstration against the cancellation of Belgrade Pride last summer; mass lobbying and direct action against the “Anti-Homophobia Bill” in Uganda”; a Love Without Borders-themed fundraising night for JFLAG (Jamaican LGBT rights organisation) in London and much more.
3. This was also the year when we saw Ugandan Kizza Musinguzi successfully achieve asylum here in the UK, after successful campaigning from NUS LGBT and other organisations.
4. That several LGBT societies have run successful Love Without Borders campaigns and events.
5. That homosexuality is still punishable by death or imprisonment in many countries around the world and homophobia, biphobia and transphobia are still present worldwide.
6. That returning vulnerable people back to countries without protective laws is like sending them to death.
7. That the Home office has shown little or no understanding of issues affecting LGBT people around the world that the indiscriminate return of LGBT people is a violation of their human rights.
8. That the NUS LGBT runs a campaign, Love Without Borders.
9. That, although the UK is one of only 14 countries worldwide to recognise asylum for LGBT people, many refugees are still refused asylum status.
10. One man supported by UKLGIG lost his case when the judge decided he ‘didn’t look gay’. If they are believed, people are often refused on the grounds that they can go back and relocate to another part of their country and ‘live discreetly’.
11. Britain imprisons more migrants, including refugees and children - over 20,000 a year - for longer and with less judicial oversight than any other country in Europe.
12. 225 people had been held in immigration detention for more than a year in 2009 – and 45 for more than two years.
13. Until the 1905 Aliens Act against Jewish refugees, the UK had no immigration controls whatsoever.
14. In 2008, there were 66 mass deportation flights from the UK, deporting a total of 1,529 people. Both the frequency of such flights and their destinations have increased in 2009.
15. That Yarl’s Wood detention centre has seen a hunger strike against sub-standard living conditions and the detention of children.
16. That scores of the 1300 people massacred by IDF bombs in the recent war on Gaza were LGBT.
17. That the Palestinians have a right to resist the occupation and decide their own future.
18. That the Palestinian “state” is completely at the mercy of the Israeli government which has broken up the democratically elected government of Palestine.
19. The Israeli government has been left free to act because of the acquiescence of western leaders and the background of the “war on terror.”
20. That all this takes place as a result of 60 years of occupation and oppression of the Palestinian people backed by the Western states.
21. That the student solidarity movement for Gaza has been one of the biggest in a generation including over 25 student occupations and sit-ins.
22. LGBT Societies across the country have been involved in these occupations, most notably at Warwick and Queen Mary.
23. NUS LGBT proudly has a standpoint of “Liberation not Occupation” and has policy reaffirming conditions of war and occupation are the worst in which to fight for LGBT liberation.
24. That in the last year the talk of war and sanctions against Iran has increased
25. That Iran's poor human rights record including on LGBT issues has been used as part of the drive to justify sanctions and war
26. That harsh sanctions on Iraq led to the deaths of one million innocent people and did not remove the regime of Saddam Hussein

27. That a new movement for democracy and justice has exploded onto the streets following elections widely seen as fraudulent
28. That an external threat makes it easier for the Iranian regime to clamp down on human rights domestically, including against LGBT people

Conference further believed:

1. That we live in a global community and therefore should use the privileges we have in this country to fight for the rights of others who are not so fortunate.
2. That it is extremely difficult to gain asylum due to LGBT status. All but the most visible and most strongly fought asylum cases are likely to be thrown out and those applying deported.
3. That the UK's border regime is a racist, heterosexist, imperialist system.
4. That borders only benefit governments and corporations and serve to divide and damage oppressed groups.
5. That all people, regardless of nationality, race, age, gender and sexuality should be entitled to move freely and to settle wherever they choose.
6. That, as a national LGBT campaign, we should fight against the inherently negative impact the border regime has on our international community.
7. That progressives in Palestine should never sideline the struggle for LGBT and women's oppression while under occupation.
8. That the continuing occupation and war crimes like the invasion of Gaza make it so much harder for progressives inside Palestine to criticise those groups who are fighting the forces dropping bombs on the heads of ordinary Palestinians.
9. That our government's support for Israel both politically and militarily contributes to this difficulty faced by LGBT activists in Palestine.
10. That it is our responsibility to hold our government to account and stop them arming Israel. This will help open up space for criticism of the Palestinian resistance amongst Palestinian people who are the only people who can determine the make up of their government.
11. That war and or sanctions would be a disaster for the Iranian people and any hope they have for a democratic future.
12. That since LGBT people are doubly oppressed any setback would affect them twice as much
13. That the conditions of LGBT people in Iraq deteriorated massively after the US led invasion
14. That while homosexuality was illegal under Saddam Hussein many LGBT people currently live in fear of summary executions
15. That many LGBT youth are currently forced into the sex trade which exploded following the US led invasion
16. That some trans people who were tolerated but not accepted under the Ba'athist regime have been viciously attacked and several murdered
17. According to human rights group Iraqi LGBT "The irony is that the situation for gays has been caused by the Anglo-American invasion. The fatwas were issued by people empowered by the invasion."

Conference resolved:

1. To encourage LGBT Societies and LGBT Officers to run Love without Borders events, fundraisers and demonstrations.
2. To continue to support asylum cases on a local and national level.
3. To encourage LGBT societies to work together locally for effective action.
4. To encourage LGBT societies to show solidarity with International LGBT organisations and campaign with them on their issues.
5. To express solidarity with all LGBT refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants trying to settle in the UK.
6. To oppose the building of any new immigrant detention centres through direct action and active campaigns.
7. To affiliate to the No Borders Network, supporting their campaign to end the border regime.
8. To campaign alongside UKLGIG and other relevant groups to make it possible for all LGBT people to move freely and live wherever they choose.
9. To work with asylum seeker solidarity groups to promote LGBTQ-sensitivity and to support their members.
10. To declare solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine and work with Al Qaws (the rainbow) for gender and sexual diversity in Palestinian society
11. To respect the democratic decisions of the Palestinian people.
12. To declare solidarity with those fighting for democracy and equality in Iran
13. To do adopt the position 'No to War! No to Sanctions!' and work with the Stop the War Coalition to ensure LGBT oppression is not used to justify war or sanctions
14. To reaffirm our position of Liberation not Occupation in practice by supporting mobilisations against a war on Iran
15. To continue supporting LGBT asylum seekers from Iran and other countries with poor human rights records

**Heading: Rainbows not War**

Conference believed:

1. That Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia are still very prevalent within our armed forces
2. That the EDL and BNP have specifically targeted LGBT people for abuse and attacks. And that at the EDL rally in Stoke this year there was significant numbers of armed forces personnel attending the rallies and speaking on stage.
3. That the conflicts that the armed forces are involved in around the world such as Afghanistan and Iraq to give two examples are not by this campaign and so the presence on campus of the armed forces recruiting for soldiers to die in these conflicts is a direct breach of our existing policy and so should be a practice we actively campaign against.
4. That the LGBT Campaign has a strong stance in favour of "Liberation Not Occupation"
5. That this policy means that we acknowledge that when LGBT people are in situations of war and occupation, they are never going to be liberated from their homophobia, biphobia or transphobia
6. That as LGBT students we do not only care about issues exclusively related to our sexuality, but world issues as well – LGBT students should, and do, pass policy related to any world issue

Conference further believed:

1. That Officers Corps and Military recruitment campaigns are often present on our campus and there are many examples where they have expressed homophobia, biphobia and transphobia through their actions, behaviour and personal comments whilst on campus and their attitudes endanger our concept of safe space within student Unions.
2. Student unions are a place for students to come together and to celebrate our diverse community, liberation and welfare services and the presence of the military on our campuses challenges this and can bring fear and intimidation to certain students. And the recruitment of students when they are often at their most vulnerable having just left home or maybe having just come out as LGBT can be seen as nothing more than exploitation, their specific targeting of former polytechnic universities with diverse wide participation recruitment policies for undergraduates is a further example of the social exploitation of the working classes by the state.

Conference resolved:

1. To call on the government to exclude serving members of the British armed forces from being members of the EDL
2. To carry out a workshop at activist training days on how LGBTs can campaign against Homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in the armed forces and how to campaign to keep them off our campuses.
3. To start a campaign called rainbows not war campaigning against abuse and exploitation of LGBT people within the armed forces and against the Military being on campuses.
4. To hold strong anti-war stance in favour of International peace and justice
5. To fully support the work of the Stop the War coalition, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and other peace and anti war organisations and campaigns
6. To support campaigns to get our troops out of Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Heading: Donation not discrimination**

Conference believed:

1. In the UK someone receives blood every 30 seconds
2. Only 4% of the population donates blood.
3. 2,000 blood donations are needed per week
4. The NHS is in constant need for donors to save lives
5. Men who have had sex with another man and women who have had sex with a man who has had sex with another man are forbidden from donating their blood regardless of whether or not safe sex was practised.
6. All blood is screened for infection.
7. 0.00001% of blood donated is infected with HIV/AIDS. 2/3 of which comes from heterosexuals.
8. Many LGBT people, particularly Lesbian and Bisexual women, are eligible to give blood, as are our allies.
9. The National Blood Service refuses to allow gay and bisexual men who have ever had sex with a man, to give blood
10. That this year has seen the continuation of the Donation Not Discrimination campaign; a campaign that we have run for the last four years against the National Blood Services ban on gay and bisexual male blood donors

11. Our work has involved a high profile demonstration outside a SaBTO (the independent advisory committee for the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs) public meeting and more LGBT societies than ever before taking up the campaign and collecting thousands of signatures against the blood ban

Conference further believed:

1. When questioning for eligibility for blood donors, questions regarding gender of one's partner should be replaced with questions regarding high risk activity.
2. Archaic rules such as these serve only to re-enforce the stereotype that HIV/AIDS is a "gay-disease."
3. Most people are unaware of the guidelines surrounding blood donation other than the fact that men who have had sex with men cannot donate.
4. NUS LGBT does not promote boycotting blood donation sessions, but does actively promote blood donation by those who are eligible

Conference resolved:

1. To continue to lobby the NHSBT, with a view to overturning the ban.
2. To continue to work with Stonewall, the National AIDS Trust, Unison LGBT and other groups that have a similar policy to us on the blood ban, to put pressure on the relevant bodies
3. To encourage those who are eligible to give blood to do so, especially during Donation not Discrimination events, and never to support a boycott of blood drives on campuses
4. When the blood ban is publicly discussed, to mention that there is no organ donation ban. This will inform gay and bisexual men who want to give blood, that there is another way for them to save lives.
5. To work in partnership with the NUS International Students Campaign on the Love without Borders Campaign.
6. To Mandate the NUS LGBT Committee to encourage, facilitate and support ODAHO events run by the LGBT Societies.

#### **Heading: Vote with pride**

Conference further believed:

1. The Vote for Students campaign has the potential to make a massive impact on the upcoming General Election.
2. People who define as LGBT should celebrate the work of the campaign in the LGBT movement by using their vote.
3. Students make a big and important part of the LGBT movement and should be encouraged to utilise their vote in favour of LGBT rights.
4. The most effective way to fight fascism is to mobilise and educate voters.
5. Students should be encouraged to make an anti-fascist vote.

Conference resolved:

1. To support the Vote for Students campaign nationally.
2. To motivate local LGBT groups and officers to mobilise the student vote locally.
3. To support and work with groups like Love Music, Hate Homophobia to mobilise the anti-fascist vote.

#### **Heading: Votes at 16**

Conference believed:

1. Lowering the voting age has the power to reinvigorate young people, captivating those that feel disempowered and excluded from the political process.
2. At 16, people become adults and should be able to take decisions on their future.
3. At a time when people feel that politics isn't relevant to them, young people need to be encouraged to take part in democracy, not kept out from it.

Conference further believed:

1. NUS Society & Citizenship zone has been working hard on getting students the right to vote at 16.
2. NUS LGBT Campaign should join their campaign and support their goals.

Conference resolved:

1. For the NUS LGBT Campaign to support and/or join the Society & Citizenship zone in:
  - a. Lobbying political parties to get Votes at 16 on the agenda after the General Election.
  - b. Looking for an MP to support a Private Members Bill or a parliamentary debate on the subject
  - c. Drafting a motion for the TUC conference on Votes at 16 to gain support within the trade union movement.

- d. Encouraging other influential organisations to join the Votes at 16 coalition.
- e. Calling for radical changes to the way in which citizenship education is taught within the national curriculum, by commissioning an investigation into the experiences of students studying citizenship today.
- f. Running a series of newspaper articles demonstrating the case for Votes at 16, to engage the wider public.
- g. Getting students' unions to lobby local councils to give 16 and 17 year olds voting rights in local elections, and additional local decisions.

**Heading: 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.

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. The failure of trans provisions in the Equality Bill to fully include individuals with non-binary identities meant that a great opportunity was missed.
- 6. A less gendered society will be beneficial in the wider fight against homophobia, transphobia and sexism.

Conference resolved:

- 1. To lobby the Government Equality Office to recognise the existence of non-binary gender identities.
- 2. To lobby equality organisations (such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission) that pursue trans rights agendas to fully incorporate non-binary issues into their work.
- 3. To work for the recognition of non-binary identities in all areas of public life, including education, healthcare, and the media.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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.

**Heading: Buggery! We won't take it lying down**

Submitted by: University of Manchester Students Union

Speech for: UMSU  
 Speech against: Free  
 Summation UMSU

Conference believed:

- 1. That 'buggery' was a criminalised in the UK until 1967.
- 2. That people convicted of 'buggery' before 1967 still have to declare it on CRB checks and in various official documents even if the law they were convicted under isn't on the books.

Conference further believed:

- 1. That having a criminal conviction severely affect people's chances of getting jobs.
- 2. That no-one should be criminalised for engaging in a consensual act or because of their sexuality.
- 3. That the fact that people still have to declare their charges for a consensual sexual act after the law has been repealed condones and legitimises the original conviction.



Conference resolved:

1. To mandate the LGBT officers to petition to abolish all past convictions for buggery.
2. To mandate the LGBT committee to campaign on this issue.

**Heading: Positive trans media**

Conference believed:

1. On the 19.10.09 Channel 4 aired the Bodyshock documentary "Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change".
2. In response to complaints regarding usage of pronouns, Commissioning editor Simon Dickson of channel 4 released the following statement online,  
"Thank you to everyone that has contacted Channel 4 to share their views on Bodyshock: Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change. The film has aroused a great deal of comment, almost all of it favourable, but I am sincerely sorry to hear that some members of the transgender community were upset by our use of biologically-accurate pronouns in the narration of the programme.  
'It's important to remember that the majority of our audience will have had little or no understanding of transgender issues. The decision to use the pronouns we did was based on our responsibility to make the programme comprehensible to a mainstream audience.  
'As many viewers have pointed out, the parents featured in our programme always referred to their child by their "preferred" gender. We were happy that this made it absolutely clear that each family had accepted and were extremely supportive of their child's decision.  
'I hope you'll agree that Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change was a story worth telling, and a story worth telling to as many people as possible, even at the risk of causing some dissatisfaction amongst those who understand the subject well already.'"

Conference further believed:

1. That the term "biologically-accurate pronouns" is an oxymoron
2. That channel 4 not only produced a documentary with offensive use of pronouns but only insulted the LGBT community further with its response to feedback

Conference resolved:

1. To inform Simon Dickson and other appropriate personnel of Channel 4 about the LGBT community and its concern.
2. To officially condemn the program as 'highly offensive and naive'.
3. To inform major TV stations of the issues trans people face in media and how to go about producing a positive trans media representation in any form the trans reps of NUS LGBT committee see fit.

**Heading: Pope Action**

Conference believed:

1. The Pope's recent comments attacked the equal rights of LGBT people in the UK
2. These comments go against the wellbeing of LGBT students in the UK

Conference further believed:

1. That there should be official action to condemn these comments.
2. That the student body should be involved in this condemnation.
3. That LGBT students should be given the opportunity to express their disapproval of the Pope's comments.
4. That the Pope's visit to the UK should not occur without action.
5. That there should be organised protest at location of the Pope's visit.

Conference resolved:

1. That the NUS should organise student involvement in this protest.
2. That the NUS should organise with other groups, the protest and coordinate action and maximize efficiency.

**Zone Strong & Active Unions**

**Heading: Defend Diversity & Democracy at Annual Conference**

Conference believed:

1. That the National Union of Students has recently undergone a governance review
2. That the resulting proposals were ratified by three extra ordinary conferences but fell at the only fully elected national conference they were put to

3. The new constitution gave the Democratic Procedures Committee far reaching powers in regard to the delegate entitlement for annual conference
4. That the DPC made a decision to slash delegate entitlements for most HE institutions by up to half and more in some cases. Leeds University for example went from 21 delegates to just 9
5. That LGBT students find it harder to win elections and so any cuts in delegate entitlements are also an attack on diversity
6. The arguments in favour of the cuts were that FE representation had been increased to represent part time students
7. That a statement opposing the cuts was drafted by NUS LGBT officers and allies and gained support from students and student officers from across the country and from across the political spectrum
8. That a motion was put to NUS NEC to oppose and reverse these cuts with the support of several NEC members including all liberation officers
9. That this motion was voted down by a narrow margin with the help of NUS Vice Presidents

Conference further believed:

1. That you do not improve FE and part time representation with tokenistic increases in delegate entitlements for colleges which struggle to pay for their delegations as it is
2. That it is unacceptable for such a small body of NUS to make a decision that has dire implications for the diversity of annual conference
3. That it is especially worrying that NUS has chosen to push through measures which will lead to a reduction in the number of minority students on conference floor given the fact that, under the new constitution, there is no guaranteed liberation representation on the highest decision making body of the organisation (Board of Trustees)
4. That it is a disgrace that NUS ignored the pleas of every single liberation campaign and officers as well as those of students and student officers from around the country

Conference resolved:

1. To formally write to the DPC expressing the opposition of the campaign to their decision and urging them to reverse the decision for subsequent conferences
2. To write to NUS Vice Presidents condemning them for ignoring liberation campaigns and harming the diversity of annual conference
3. To communicate with our members the change our campaign had made to extend democracy and diversity and guarantee black and trans places for delegations to NUS LGBT Conference and highlight this as a model of best practice

### **Heading: For a feminist campaign**

Conference believed:

1. That currently, the NUS LGBT campaign has two part time officers, one of which is a dedicated women's place, elected by self defining women at NUS LGBT conference.
2. That in 10 years, there has only been one woman elected to the position of LGBT Officer (open place).
3. That women are severely under- represented in politics and positions of leadership. The LGBTQ movement is no different.
4. That attempts to axe the women's place officer have taken place every year at LGBT conference since 2007, but no alternative other than one full time officer have been provided.
5. That the LGBT Officers are paid a part time wage, but often work full time on the campaign with no other income

Conference further believed:

1. The causes of homophobia are rooted in sexism and gender discrimination. LGBT people will never achieve liberation until women's liberation is achieved.
2. Patriarchy does not just oppress women, it oppresses LGBTQ people too and is the basis of heteronormativity.
3. That sexism still exists in the LGBT campaign, and as a progressive movement we should do everything we can to smash it and give women a voice.
4. That since the introduction of gender balanced conference delegations; the campaign has seen a sharp increase in the participation of women in our democracy.
5. That people should be able to hold one of our officer positions without having to live on low wages.

Conference resolved:

1. To maintain our stance as a dedicated feminist campaign, one that celebrates and defends women's representation at the highest levels of our movement.

2. To retain and defend gender balanced delegations at our conference
3. To work with the NUS women's campaign on fighting for representation of women in the wider student movement, and help defend any attacks on women's officers across the country.
4. To work with LGBT students on the ground to ensure LGBTQ women's representation in LGBT societies and student unions across the country.

## **Heading            LGBT Campaigning Training**

Conference believed:

1. That this year saw the third annual Activist Training Days and the first ever LGBT Officer Residential as part of our training programmes
2. That the Activist Training Days focussed on developing and strengthening LGBT societies; campaigning and lobbying for change; gaining knowledge on specific LGBT issues; problem-solving; and sharing best practice on issues affecting local LGBT societies.
3. That the LGBT Officer Residential saw 30 LGBT Officers trained in identifying the issues for LGBT students, representing LGBT students within institutions, and in-depth campaigning techniques and methods
4. That local and regional organisations can be extremely effective at helping LGBT societies and students at grass roots level.
5. That local and regional organisations can help LGBT societies access funding and expertise on a whole range of issues.
6. There is a variety of NUS LGBT policy that calls for the LGBT Campaign to lobby the national government, local authorities and/or numerous institutions and organisations to adopt LGBTQ-friendly policies and practices.
7. It is possible to lobby such bodies or otherwise advocate LGBTQ-friendly policies and practices through a variety of methods; these include the attending of meetings and consultations, letter-writing and presenting evidence in favour of a desired approach or outcome.
8. The NUS LGBT has brought about a great deal of positive change through lobbying, by (for example) bringing health groups into the campaign against the homophobic and bi-phobic blood ban, and pushing for a more inclusive Equality Bill.
9. The NUS LGBT Campaign has offered student activists a great deal of training and advice in recent years on engaging in direct action, raising awareness, and engaging in certain forms of advocacy (such as letter-writing campaigns).
10. There has been less guidance provided in relation to other forms of advocacy, such as lobbying techniques.
11. NUS NEC represents the entire membership including LGBT people and should be appropriately trained in equality and diversity issues for all of the liberation campaigns.
12. Organisations such as Stonewall that only represent LGB people would benefit from specific training and awareness on Trans issues.
13. Stonewall has persistently refused to consider representing Trans people or ensuring they are considered when looking at services for LGB people who may also be Trans.

Conference further believed:

1. That as a result of the Activist Training Days and LGBT Officer Residential we have seen many vibrant campaigns run across the UK and important networks built up between local students' union LGBT representatives.
2. That building local and regional networks of students is an extremely effective campaigning tool, allowing both proactive and reactive action.
3. That all our training must reflect our membership, and we must work harder to ensure Further Education issues are mainstreamed into the training of Higher Education students.
4. That it is of extreme importance to ensure participation from a diverse range of activists; LGBT people are women, black, disabled, FE, mature, postgraduate and international!
5. Strategic lobbying and advocacy can be powerful tools for bringing about positive change in organisations such as colleges, universities, NHS trusts and local authorities.
6. The NUS LGBT Campaign has a good deal of influence as a national organisation, but it is also important and beneficial to put power into the hands of ordinary student activists.
7. Student activists often aren't sure how best to get involved with many forms of lobbying and advocacy.
8. It can be highly beneficial to have a radical voice at advisory meetings and consultations.
9. All organisations representing LGB people should have appropriate training for interacting with Trans people.
10. Stonewall has in the past ran successful LGB campaigns which we acknowledge and support.
11. Stonewall is one of the biggest LGB charities in the UK and has a significant influence on political parties in the area of LGB issues.
12. Stonewall due to its lack of awareness, training or understanding of trans issues and transphobia nominated Julie Bindal as journalist of the year despite wide spread criticism from the LGBT community.

Conference resolved:

1. To continue to champion the training of activists and hold 6 Activist Training Days in November 2010
2. To advertise these events from the beginning of summer, not just to LGBT students, but to all sabbatical and part-time students' union officers as well.
3. To hold the second annual LGBT Officer Residential this summer specifically for LGBT Officers or LGBT society heads
4. To increase the numbers at this event from 30 to at least 40
5. To continue to ensure that at this training event there are reserved places for Further Education students, which will be free of charge.
6. To where possible, invite local and regional organisations to Activist Training Days with the aims of helping LGBT Societies;
  - A. Start to build up contacts that could help them gain funding.
  - B. Campaign more effectively at a local level.
  - C. Understand the way that services are delivered in their areas.
7. To produce guidance for LGBTQ student activists which offers information on how to get involved in a variety of lobbying and advocacy activities.
8. To supplement the guidance with specific advice and training at NUS LGBT Activist Days and future NUS LGBT Conferences.
7. To relate the guidance, advice and training to ongoing campaigns such as Donation Not Discrimination, Love Without Borders and the Healthcare
8. To Run Trans Awareness Training for NUS NEC to ensure we are as trans inclusive as possible
9. To invite Stonewall specifically and other non trans inclusive LGB organisations to attend a Trans awareness/training event.
10. To not share a platform and not to invite the transphobic and islamophobic journalists Julie Bindal or Beatrix Campbell to any NUS LGBT events.
11. To write an article to be published on the NUS website and sent out as a press release showing support for stonewall's past successful campaigns but criticising their failure to include trans people and call on them to do so.
12. To run an event working with the other liberation campaigns calling for the end of transphobia and islamophobia with specific reference to Transphobic journalists, celebrating the diversity of our campaigns and raising awareness through workshops, food and music.

### **Heading      Committee Commitment**

Conference believed:

1. That there are currently 15 places available on the NUS LGBT Committee.
2. That the working capacity of the campaign depends a lot on efforts of the committee.
3. The committee function as regional contacts for unions, policy implementers, workshop designers/ leaders and representatives of the campaign.
4. That the quoracy of the committee meetings is 50% of elected positions plus 1.
5. LGBT People come from all walks of life and many identify in to other liberation campaigns.
6. Any self defining members of any NUS committee is entitled to attend LGBT committee meeting.

Conference further believed:

1. That LGBT students and societies have an expectation of the committee members that they elect to do their best to deliver their promises at the time of election.
2. That due to unforeseen circumstances there are always a number of committee members who unable to continue to commit the time and effort needed to fulfil the role they were elected to do.
3. That committee members sometimes feel they are not equipped to deliver what is expected of them.
4. That people not attending meetings causes the campaign to not be able to make decision in between conferences.
5. Cross liberation is an invaluable tool in combating prejudice by offering multiple perspectives on the root causes of oppression.
6. LGBT reps from other committees seldom attend LGBT committee meeting.
7. NUS LGBT is a progressive organisation at the forefront of LGBT issues.

Conference resolved:

1. To make handover smoother between the committee from one year to the next by ensuring interaction between the outgoing committee member and the incoming is available.
2. That training opportunities for committee members continues throughout the year.
3. If a committee member fails to attend two meetings during their term without sending apologies prior to the meeting they will be deemed to have resigned and the position will be re-opened for cooption.

4. To make information on committee meeting dates available to all self defining NUS Committee members and officers and in particular LGBT reps from other campaigns.
5. To look at the possibility of a 'root cause of oppression' working group including representatives from all liberation campaigns and academics

### **Heading LGBT in FE – creating a more representative and diverse campaign**

#### Conference believed

1. Further Education students make up around 60% of the membership of the national union of students
2. That at last years NUS LGBT conference, there were around 10 further education unions represented, compared to over 50 higher education unions represented.
3. That 2 years ago, the campaign launched the 'Putting the LGBT into FE' project, with resources aimed at helping to set up and maintain LGBT groups in FE colleges
4. That at the first LGBT Officer residential in 2009, there were free places for FE students to attend.
5. That for the first time this year, an FE Focus Group was established, in order to identify an action plan for involvement.
6. That Further Education LGBT groups face additional barriers to participation, including college bureaucracy, financial barriers and communication issues.
7. NUS LGBT Campaign passed policy last year to establish a focus group for FE students to come together and form a focus group.
8. This had been successfully established and been used throughout the year as a sounding board and a working group for expanding the inclusion of FE students.
9. This work needs to continue if NUS LGBT Campaign wants to involve FE students fully.

#### Conference further believes

1. That although further education work in the campaign is improving, there is still more to do
2. that to participate fully in our campaign we must provide additional financial assistance to Further Education Unions
3. That empowering FE students to be involved in our campaign is key to long lasting involvement.
4. This focus group has helped FE LGBT students become engaged with the campaign and share their experiences with each other
5. FE LGBT students have hardly ever had an opportunity to come together and influence the NUS LGBT campaign.
6. The campaign has learnt from the FE students as to how best to engage with and amend their processes to include FE students.

#### Conference resolves

1. To continue the work of the FE Focus group for 2010-11 by:
  - a. developing the involvement strategy
  - b. Gathering its members' views on how campaign can be more inclusive
  - c. Using the focus group as a sound board for developing future briefings/ documents and events
2. To make Further Education Involvement a priority for 2010/2011
3. To create a dedicated section on the NUS LGBT website for further education students to access resources and information specifically for them
4. To create a formal 'FE LGBT' email network for FE students and SSLO's
5. To update and continue to publicise the 'Putting the LGBT into FE' toolkit and briefing to as many FE colleges as possible.
6. To continue to provide free or discounted places to FE students at the NUS LGBT Officer Training Residential and Activist Training Days

### **Heading: A safer future for LGBT Youth.**

#### Conference believed:

1. The Government estimates suggest that up to 6% of the UK population is LGBT; other groups put the estimate at 10%. That's over 6 million LGBT people (DTI 2003).
2. There are over a hundred and fifty LGBT Youth Groups across the UK to provide welfare, support and social activities for thousands of LGBT Youth. (Gay Youth UK)
3. Recent studies show that LGBT people have significantly higher than average rates of anxiety, depression and self-harm (The National Inquiry into Self-Harm, 2006).
4. 65% of young lesbian, gay, and bisexual pupils in the UK have experienced direct bullying in schools (Stonewall estimates that up to 60,000 schoolchildren are the victims of homophobic bullying).

5. Lesbian, gay and bisexual people who have been bullied are less likely than their peers to continue into further or higher education. They are also more likely to contemplate self-harm or suicide. Similarly, a higher than average proportion of trans people leave school at 16, (although research has shown that around a third take up further and higher education later in life). (Camden LGBT Youth Forum, 2008)
6. LGBT people are more likely to become victims of hate crime. A poll in 2001 found 68% of respondents had experienced homophobic abuse (GALOP 2001).
7. That some LGBT Youth Groups are under threat of closing down, such as the Lesbian and Gay Youth Manchester group, due to lack of funding.

Conference further believed:

1. LGBT Youth Groups have been crucial in providing support and bettering the lives of thousands of young LGBT people.
2. LGBT Youth Groups should not have to close down because of lack of funding.
3. LGBT groups of FE and HE should be encouraged to forge links with local LGBT Youth Groups to help inspire more young people to go into FE and HE.
4. FE and HE LGBT groups can support local LGBT youth groups to campaign, and fundraise.
5. Members of local Youth Groups and LGBT students in FE and HE can work effectively together to share ideas and combat prejudice, bullying and hate-crime in local communities and promote well-being.

Conference resolved:

1. To encourage both FE and HE institutions to forge links with local LGBT Youth Groups.
2. To mandate LGBT Officers to provide a web page with information on the benefits of FE and HE institutions working together with local LGBT Groups and advice such as how to obtain CRB checks if necessary, how to run effective localised campaigns, and fundraise.
3. To mandate LGBT Officers to actively support LGBT Youth Groups in danger of closing down, by writing letters of support to the group concerned, writing to the local council or home office and attending public meetings.

### **Heading: Discrimination in Societies & Sports Clubs**

Conference believed:

1. That societies and sports teams are commonly places where LGBT Students regularly feel uncomfortable.
2. The culture within some sports clubs and societies excludes LGBT students by the nature of their activities.

Conference further believed:

1. That the NUS LGBT campaign has a commitment to creating inclusive environments for all whilst studying at University.
2. That negative perceptions of LGBT people are common amongst the sporting environments at university.

Conference resolved:

1. To equip LGBT Societies with the tools to challenge exclusive behaviour.
2. To work with the VP Union Development and other liberation officers to campaign on mandatory training for leader of sports clubs and societies in unions.
3. To work with the VP Union Development and BUCS (British Universities and Colleges sport) to create a training programme for student leaders and coaches on equality and diversity issues.

### **Heading: Fight for the right to Party**

Conference believed:

1. An integral part of the student experience is social interaction outside of their course.
2. LGBTQ Students are often excluded from hetero-normative events both internally run by student unions and external ones endorsed by them.
3. Student Unions frequently hold hetero-normative events that exclude LGBTQ students, such as (heterosexual) speed dating.
4. Research by the University of Birmingham LGBTQ Association has shown that many LGBTQ students have faced discrimination in venues in the city of their university, such as being asked to leave or being treated in a hostile manner by staff and security for kissing their partners or 'displaying' their sexuality or gender identity.
5. Recent extreme violence against the LGBTQ community in Birmingham venues as only served to highlight the extent and urgency of this issue.
6. Many University social events are held in venues where it is known that LGBTQ-phobia takes place.
7. Although LGBTQ students are protected by law from this kind of discrimination, in reality, LGBTQ-phobia is still alive and well, and made worse by support of these venues by Student Unions.

Conference further believed:

1. As a part of the National Union of Students, the NUS LGBT campaign has the power to lobby student unions to protect LGBTQ students by refusing to give endorsement to LGBTQ-phobic venues and ensuring that internal events are LGBTQ-friendly.
2. That the NUS LGBT campaign has an opportunity to take a leading role in informing student unions of this issue, and to provide support for societies for LGBTQ students within unions to campaign within their own unions on the issue.
3. That events that exclude LGBTQ students frequently exclude those from any other on-traditional students groups
4. Working in partnership with other liberation campaigns only adds capacity and energy for delivery.

Conference resolved:

1. To begin a Fight for the Right to Party campaign that both lobbies student unions, venues (where appropriate) and supports LGBTQ societies in carrying out this campaign at a campus level.
2. To campaign by lobbying student unions not to promote or endorse events, clubs or venues that are LGBTQ-phobic.
3. To encourage unions to demand that venues outline their policy regarding treatment of LGBTQ visitors in writing before considering their endorsement or promotion.
4. To encourage unions to ensure that their internal events are LGBTQ-friendly.
5. To encourage unions to promote LGBTQ and LGBTQ-friendly events.
6. To create a written guide for unions, venues and LGBT societies on the subject of active inclusion of LGBTQ students at events and nights out
7. To create a Fight for the Right to Party campaign guide and workshop to provide information and support for student LGBTQ societies to tackle this issue at a campus and local level.
8. to encourage the campaign for fight for the right to party to be adapted for use with and by other liberation campaigns.

### **Heading: Poly People**

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolves:

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

### **Heading Increase Communication - Utilising Officer Online**

Conference believes:

1. That Officer Online is a valuable resource for all sabbaticals and student activists.
2. That the LGBT section of the officer online website receives more 'hits' than any other liberation campaign pages.

Conference further believed:

1. That providing information in a variety of formats improves accessibility to the campaign
2. The consistent communication between NUS LGBT officers, committee and students widens participation in the student's movement.
3. Mailing lists are a very effective way of providing important information to student union LGBT Officer.
4. Increasing communication to the membership increases transparency of NUS officers and the NUS committees.
5. Not enough support is given to student union LGBT Officer and conference delegates to help them with the democratic structures of conference and submitting motions.
6. Adequate time is needed in order to prepare to submit a motion to conference.

Conference resolved:

1. To better utilise Officer online in the coming year by:
  - a. Using multiple formats such as videos, audio and signed media
  - b. Updating officer blogs as least once-weekly
  - c. Provide NUS emails addresses for committee members
  - d. For the agenda and minute of the NUS LGBT committee meeting to be put online so as officers and committee can be held to account
2. To set up and encourages all liberating campaigns to fill in an online calendar of events including meetings, protests and relevant external events to encourage cross liberation.
3. For the LGBT officers to send amn emails to students unions LGBTS officers every six to eight weeks, or as frequently as committee meeting are held to report on what they and the NUS LGBT Committee are doing.
4. For an email to be sent to the SU LGBT officers 4 weeks in advance of the motion deadline for NUS LGBT conference informing delegates of the deadline.
5. For the NUS LGBT Officers to create a document informing delegates of how to write a motion and explaining the democratic structures of NUS LGBT Conference.

### **Heading Stronger Nations**

Conference believes:

1. NUS is made stronger by the 3 Nations
2. Nations provide an invaluable representation for devolved nations and students in Scotland Wales and Northern Ireland and should be strongly supported by NUS UK campaign.
3. That due to distances involved especially from NUS UK HQ NUS nations and students often feel isolated from NUS UK.
4. That the NUS LGBT Campaign tries to include as many students from its constituent members as possible.
5. That Scotland has several HE institutions not affiliated to NUS and where their LGBT students can't be directly supported and involved in the NUS LGBT Campaign. More involvement awareness and campaigning in Scotland will help with campaigns to increase the number of affiliated unions and NUS LGBT should do everything it can to support this.

Conference further believes:

1. Nations Unions often come up with diverse and imaginative campaigns that UK unions would benefit from sharing best practice and NUS LGBT should support this.
2. NUS Nations provide a valuable resource to the student movement although proportionately have a limited budget to utilise in representing students and NUS LGBT should support them campaigning to increase their budgets to that they have more resources to represent nations students.

Conference resolves:

1. To attempt to send one of the NUS LGBT Officers and if finances allow a committee member to increase diversity of expertise to Northern Ireland to Support the work of NUS USI LGBT and share best practice.
2. To provide extended nations training for new committee members and also workshops on the nations at LGBT activist training days.
3. To provide a nations showcase at NUS conference each year celebrating the diverse range of events nations LGBTs have put on and the work of NUS LGBT Nations through pictures stall and a presentation.

### **Heading: Trans Involvement**

Conference believed:

1. That the majority of sabbatical officers come from a elitist non liberation background and are often Heteronormative, Socially Normative Cisgendered, white men



2. The lack of election rules on many campuses ensure only rich or mainstream politically supported students can win elections
3. That Trans Students often face direct and indirect discrimination and obstacles that other students don't face when standing in elections due to institutionalised Transphobia

Conference further believed:

1. That historically unions have been and should remain political campaigning representative Union, fighting for students on their campuses and in their communities locally and nationally.
2. That Liverpool Guild of Students Block election system for sabbatical officers is more accessible to Liberation students than single position elections.
3. That's ideally the Block sabbatical elections should exclude presidents, which should be ran as a separate election.

Conference resolved:

1. To oppose the introduction of Trustee Boards at Student Unions that will have power to make political decisions and to mobilise protests and campaigns against this.
2. To produce a toolkit for trans students providing help, tips and support to run in union elections.
3. To run a national training event similar to women's campaign's event "lead the way" for LGBT and especially Trans students to help provide them with the skills to run and win student union elections.
4. To challenge student political groups and factions on their lack of Trans representation, specific campaign policy, support and Transphobia reported within them due to institutionalised Transphobia.
5. To undertake research to see how many sabbatical and non sabbatical student Union officers define as trans and to publish the results as an investigation into trans representation in student union democracy and student political groups such as Conservative Future, Labour Students, etc.

## **Heading Mainstream Identities – Inclusion not discrimination**

Conference believed:

1. LGBT people are often perceived by various stereotypes, and these stereotypes can often be damaging to the community
2. Stereotypes can often cause discrimination towards people from within the LGBT community too, especially towards Bisexual and Trans people who can often be seen as "not bi enough" or "not trans enough"
3. The Media, and Gay bars often help promote these stereotypes, which helps perpetuate the patriarchy which strongly exists within the LGBT community as seen by the majority of LGBT society chairs and officers being gay men.

Conference further believed:

1. Trans Identities are very broad and include people who disagree with gender binary stereotypes and who challenge perceptions through their own identities, behaviour and how they view themselves. Trans includes a whole range of broad identities many undefined equally as valid as another, there is no such thing as not trans enough if you identify as trans!
2. Challenging perceptions of Bisexual people is important too. Bi people will often get labelled straight looking or because they are in a relationship between a man and a women at some point be told they aren't part of the community. This is shameful and has no place in our campaign!

Conference resolved:

1. To encourage people to challenge the perceptions of trans identities and to promote the wider inclusion of people under trans to stop people who would identify as trans but don't feeling they will get discriminated against or labelled not trans.
2. To run a campaign called challenging perceptions to campaign against the stereotypes of specifically Bisexual and Trans people but also Lesbian and Gay people to.
3. To include Mainstream Trans and Bisexual attitudes and ideas, in future workshops and campaigns. Encouraging more people to feel comfortable self defining as both Bisexual and Trans.

## **Zone Education**

### **Heading: No Compromise on Free Education**

Conference believed:

1. That after years of underfunding for post-16 education, the Government brought in tuition fees and then top-up fees and this academic year could see the lifting of the £3,000 cap on university tuition fees.

2. In a recent survey two thirds of Vice Chancellors wanted an increase in fees between £4,000 and £20,000 per year.
3. That students face soaring costs of living and student debt and poverty are already spiralling.
4. That the market dominates our education system from school to college to university.
5. That NUS LGBT Campaign has a policy to campaign for free education and universal grants voted through at the last conference. All the NUS liberation campaigns now have free education policy.
6. Despite different systems operating in Wales and Scotland, students from these nations still face financial hardship, as they don't receive living grants.
7. Part-time and International students' fees are unregulated and rise without any real justification.
8. Chief among the arguments in support of the new system was that it would widen participation; estimates vary but broadly show this has not happened.

Conference further believed:

1. Higher Education has transformed the lives of huge numbers of LGBT people, often giving them a chance to meet other LGBT people and come out about their sexuality in a setting far more appealing than the places in which they have been brought up.
2. One in four LGBT people between the ages of 18-25 are at some stage emotionally and financially estranged from their parents, an astronomically higher ratio than the national average. LGBT students thus continue to be discriminated against by the current means-testing system of education funding.
3. Many LGBT students who receive no financial support from their parents for their education as a result of being open about their sexuality are nevertheless unable to seek additional funding through claiming estrangement.
4. Forcing students to be financially dependent on their parents furthermore means that many LGBT students who do receive financial support from their parents face an added financial pressure to hide their sexuality. Such pressure flies in the face of any move toward a more progressive and equal society.
5. Students should not have to disclose their reasons for estrangement (especially in the event of LGBT oppression) when applying for student financial support.
6. LGBT students may be delayed from beginning their university education because of the length and distress of the process of proving estrangement, or may not begin at all because of the costs involved. In addition, students who become estranged during the academic year cannot reapply for further funding to reflect their change in circumstance.
7. The only way of overcoming these problems is the reinstatement of universal grants, funded through progressive taxation and a re-prioritisation of government resources.
8. Arguing against means-testing does not let the rich 'off the hook' any more than arguing against means-tested access to healthcare: wealthy parents should not only have to pay for their own son's/daughter's education, but should fund the education system for society as a whole.
9. A campaign for completely free education for all may not be entirely successful but will re-orientate the debate in the right direction.
10. As the whole of our society benefits from a more skilled work-force Higher Education should be funded as part of the government's overall economic priorities. To suggest that Britain can't afford a necessary, quality, free system of higher education is simply wrong and reveals that the government has the wrong economic priorities
11. Rather than waste billions of pounds bailing out bank shareholders, maintaining a level of military spending far beyond the country's means (and much higher than others such as Germany, for example), developing a new generation of nuclear weapons to replace Trident or bringing in costly ID cards the government should instead be expanding access to Higher Education, by reducing, not increasing, the cost to individual students. This would have massive long term economic benefits
12. Unfortunately, NUS' recent blueprint, 'Funding Our Future' advocates that students should pay even more for Higher Education than they already do
13. The Governments claims that shifting more and more of the costs onto individual students and their families was necessary to increase the proportion of young people in Higher Education is now completely exposed by its decision to freeze students numbers this year and to, at the same time, consider increasing fees.
14. That funding cuts always hit minority students the hardest, they damage widening participation schemes and student support.
15. That it is often support facilities which LGBT and other students rely on which are hit first.
16. That LGBT students have particularly high levels of estrangement and thus are forced to rely on state support services.
17. That students tend to achieve lower grades in their first year than the following two years.
18. That many LGBT students find it harder to complete degrees than their straight and cisgendered counterparts and so two year degrees would leave us at a bigger disadvantage.
19. That universities may cut union block grants to save money resulting in possible job losses.

20. That cost saving measures in Essex university resulted in the sacking of membership services staff who overlook society provisions.
21. That LGBT societies provide crucial welfare services and any cutbacks to membership services departments will seriously affect the ability of LGBT societies to meet their members' needs.
22. That the NUS LGBT campaign needs to work with all forces interested in stopping these cuts.

#### Conference resolved

1. To campaign for non-means tested, universal grants for all students, highlighting why this is particularly important for LGBT access to Higher Education.
2. To campaign for universal grants as part of a campaign for free education for all, and to do everything possible to fight for this position in the NUS as a whole, ensuring that the needs of LGBT students are at the forefront of national debate.
3. To call on the NUS leadership to stop ignoring liberation campaigns and to support the campaign for a free education for all.
4. To oppose any private sector control over education provision.
5. To fully support the Free Education Campaign's briefing on investing in education
6. To fully support the UCU's proposal for a Business Education Tax
7. To support occupations and strikes in defence of jobs and education.
8. To support and empower LGBT students to challenge their colleges where a greater focus on Equality & Diversity is required, and therefore to influence and take ownership of their learning.
9. To promote the two DVDs produced by LSIS on sexual orientation and gender identity to colleges and ensuring it's used to all students, full-time and part-time.
10. To work with LSIS in ensuring that providers are fully equipped to deliver this in the curriculum.
11. That the government has announced it is cutting at least a billion pounds from the Higher Education budget
12. That the government has talked of introducing two year degrees as possible replacements for current three year courses
13. That this would result in the first year marks counting towards the final degree result.
14. That the government's excuse for the cuts is to redress the national debt after the bank bailouts
15. That a national 'Take Back Education,' teach in of 350 students and lecturers took place in London against cuts which included a liberation workshop run by an NUS LGBT Officer.
16. To call for a first term national demonstration against fees and cuts.
17. To support further national and regional Take Back Education Teach ins to ensure LGBT liberation is at the heart of resistance to education cut backs
18. To support students' unions holding cuts demos.
19. To lobby for these positions at NUS nationally.

#### Heading: Defend EMA

##### Conference believed:

1. NUS and the Learning and Skills Network (LSN) produced a research document called "Hidden Costs of Further Education" in 2008.
2. This document showed how many FE students rely on government grants such as EMA and ALG.
3. This research showed that more than a third of all FE students contemplate dropping out of their course for financial reasons, 12% saying that had done so often. For adult students 18% said they have considered dropping out frequently.
4. 60% of respondents were women compared to 53% of EMA recipients as a whole.

##### Conference further believed:

1. Students in FE rely mainly on their personal earnings and family and friends for financial support.
2. Between a quarter and third of students said they had lost earnings by participating in FE, 80% of whom said they had lost more than £50 and 15% saying they had lost more than £250.
3. 60% of students working while studying to meet the cost of their education, with 42% of those working more than 15 hours a week

##### Conference resolved:

1. For the LGBT Campaign to join the FE Campaign in:
  - h. calling on the Government to keep the EMA system
  - i. defending the £10 and £20 rates of EMA as an essential maintenance subsidy for those who do not qualify for the full amount
  - j. supporting an increase in the amount of students eligible for EMA, and a review into bonuses
  - k. campaigning for differentiation of entitlement if you have more than one dependent in your household
  - l. campaigning for an increase in the money available for Learner Support Fund

## **Heading: Equality & Diversity in the FE Curriculum**

Conference believed:

1. That OfSTED (the FE inspectors) have made Equality & Diversity a limiting grade
2. Some colleges are responding to this new inspection requirement with a “tokenistic” approach to meeting the Ofsted criteria.
3. Colleges should take a more holistic approach towards promoting equality and diversity values within their institutions and to their students, therefore equipping students to embrace and advocate such values in wider society.
4. That a sound knowledge of equality and diversity issues better equips students for future employment and this is particularly important for those students on “programme-led” apprenticeships who do not get much experience of the workplace whilst on their course.
5. That equality and diversity education is covered in the Key Skills curriculum, but this only applies to full time students.
6. That part-time students should also receive education on Equality & Diversity

Conference further believed:

1. That the education system carries a hidden curriculum in which teachers and lecturers can inflict their personal prejudices and pre-conceptions about students and wider society in the classroom.
2. That education is not just about studying subjects but also learning norms, values and beliefs.
3. That not all teachers and lecturers commit to teaching about Equality & Diversity in their lessons plans.
4. That NUS should support LGBT students and Students' Unions in challenging their institutions about the way the lessons are planned and how E&D feed into it.

Conference resolved:

1. To support the FE Zone in lobbying the government to review the levels of education on Equality & Diversity happening in colleges.
2. For the FE reps on the LGBT Committee to liaise with the FE Zone campaign in gathering case studies from colleges and their LGBT students being inspected under the new Ofsted Common Inspection Framework.
3. NUS LGBT to analyse these case studies in terms of their LGBT inclusion within the curriculum.
4. NUS LGBT to name and shame colleges and other providers that fail to promote LGBT inclusion within the curriculum.
5. To support and empower LGBT students to challenge their colleges where a greater focus on Equality & Diversity is required, and therefore to influence and take ownership of their learning.
6. To promote the two DVDs produced by LSIS on sexual orientation and gender identity to colleges and ensuring it's used to all students, full-time and part-time.
7. To work with LSIS in ensuring that providers are fully equipped to deliver this in the curriculum.

## **Policy Passed at LGBT Conference 2011**

### **Welfare Zone Conference**

#### **Motion: Don't Punish HIV Positive People**

##### **This Conference Believes**

1. That last year NUS LGBT passed policy warning of imminent cuts to HIV provision
2. That this year our fears have been proven correct with deep cuts to vital HIV provision
3. That the Aids Support Grant (AGS) which provides local authorities with millions of pounds of funding for HIV related services such as counselling has had its ring fence removed. This means it no longer has to be spent on HIV provision
4. That, according to HIV charities, some councils plan to make 100% cuts to HIV provision. This means all funding for counselling, peer support, support for family and friends, minority based HIV initiatives, programmes concentrating on women with HIV and services specific to those suffering poor health due to HIV could disappear
5. That, according to leading HIV specialists in the UK, the most effective HIV medications with the least side effect profile may not be available on the NHS in a matter of years

##### **This Conference Further Believes**

1. That services such as counselling and family support can drastically improve the quality of life of people affected in anyway by HIV
2. That better mental health for people living with HIV leads to better adherence to medications which reduces the likelihood of HIV related complications or resistance to medications
3. That side effects from drugs are an important factor in poor adherence so better tolerated medications reduce poor adherence. This increases quality of life and also saves the NHS money in the long run
4. That the AIDS Support Grant is the equivalent of 0.03% of the increase in wealth of the richest 1000 Britons between 2009 and 2010.
5. That maintaining HIV funding should not be counter-posed to maintaining other aspects of healthcare funding

##### **This Conference Resolves**

1. To maintain HIV Funding as a key part of healthcare policy activity
  2. To approach HIV Charities such as Aidsmap and THT to collate information on cuts, especially in relation to potential changes to medication provision in the future
  3. To call for a Wealth Tax to maintain, and where necessary increase, HIV funding
- 

#### **Motion: There's More to My Education**

##### **Conference Notes:**

1. That NUS Scotland's priority campaign, entitled "There's More to My Education", deals with LGBT Mental Health.
2. That 'There's More to My Education' engaged students and Board of Management staff from the FE sector more than any other campaign or event has done before.
3. That 'There's More to My Education' is a transferrable model which can be used the length and breadth of the UK.
4. That 'There's More to My Education' is a campaign seeking to further and better the experiences of the LGBT Community when accessing mental health services, and to access them free of judgement.
5. That 'There's More to My Education' is an anti-stigma campaign, campaigning to end the stigma around Mental Health and the LGBT Community.

##### **Conference Believes:**

1. That with Homosexuality having only been declassified as a Mental Illness in 1992, there is still a lot of stigma attached to the LGBT Community accessing Mental Health Services.
2. That with the introduction of The Equality Act which now covers Sexuality & Gender Identity, NHS Boards and Educational Establishments have a duty of care to the LGBT Community.
3. That by harnessing the campaign, NUS UK LGBT would be the leading campaigners in LGBT Mental Health, furthering and bettering experiences of LGBT Students.
4. That LGBT students should be able to access, without fear, LGBT Friendly Mental Health Services in their University or College, or in the community.
5. That Mental health services should create and maintain strong links with local LGBT support groups to allow for better signposting and early intervention on mental health issues.

6. That Health Professionals should not judge anyone accessing their Mental Health Services on the basis of that person's sexuality.
7. That Anti-Stigma Campaigns run by the Government should include elements specifically targeting at and developed by the LGBT community.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To develop a UK-wide campaign on LGBT Mental Health, which campaigns on the aims in Conference Believes 4-7.
  2. To campaign with NHS Boards as well as Institutions to ensure that the aims of the campaign are met.
  3. To involve Student Activists across both the HE & FE sectors to get involved in campaigning on a local level on furthering and bettering the experiences of LGBT Students when accessing mental health services.
- 

**Motion: Let's Fight all Prejudice****Conference Believes**

1. That in response to homophobic stickers appearing in East London, a rally was called, entitled 'East End Gay Pride.'
2. Concerns were raised about this demonstration and its possible links to the English Defence League
3. Evidence later came to light that one of the organisers of the event was a founder member of the EDL
4. In response to this supporting organisations pulled out and several LGBT organisations released statements distancing themselves from the event including Muslim LGBT organisation Imaan

**Conference Further Believes**

1. That Muslims communities currently face significant demonisation, from the tabloid media to government ministers
2. That this atmosphere of Islamophobia makes it harder to effectively challenge homophobia in the Muslim community
3. That as such, LGBT Muslims often face dual oppression of Islamophobia (sometimes from within the LGBT Community) and homophobia (sometimes from within the Muslim community)
4. That the existence of Islamophobia does not mean we should not fighting homophobia but it does mean that we have to fight racism at the same time
5. That campaigns against homophobia should be careful not to imply any one community is uniquely homophobic
6. That NUS LGBT campaigning around this issue should be based on collaboration with LGBT Muslim groups and LGBT students who are Muslim or from a Muslim background

**Conference Resolves**

1. To approach Imaan to see how NUS LGBT can play a positive role in challenging phobias
  2. For the NUS LGBT Campaign to actively promote positive role models of Muslim LGBT people and let them know that being LGBT is not a choice and they should not have to let go of the faith they grew up with, nor their sexuality.
  3. To support an event in the East End against the homophobic stickers which also stands clearly against Islamophobia and is inclusive and welcoming of Muslims and anti-racist organisations
- 

**Trans in Healthcare****Conference believes**

1. That LGBT people experience discrimination within healthcare.
2. That most transgender people who intend to physically transition will access NHS care to do so.
3. Transgender people may also need to 'disclose' their transgender status whilst accessing other forms of health and social care throughout their lives.
4. Many transgender people are required to or choose to undergo counselling throughout their transition.

**Conference further believes**

1. The waiting lists for NHS gender identity clinics are long with many patients waiting more than a year for their

- first appointment.
2. The position of gender identity clinics on treatment for those with non binary gender identities is ambiguous though many experience discrimination on these grounds.
  3. Healthcare staff often know very little about transgender issues which can make disclosure difficult, in particular during emergency medical situations.
  4. Many transgender people have reported discrimination within the health service on the basis of gender history leading to inadequate healthcare.
  5. University and college counselling services are often clueless about transgender and gender variant issues.

#### **Conference Resolves**

1. To campaign for college and university counselling services to be more aware of the needs of transgender and gender variant students.
  2. To produce and supply relevant literature to these services where possible.
  3. To produce a briefing about the needs and rights of trans people surrounding healthcare including signposting to various organisations such as PALS.
  4. To work with the Disabled Students campaign to ensure that the personal care campaign is aware of LGBT and in particular trans issues surrounding accessing personal care within a health and social care context.
  5. To use the bases within the current healthcare manifesto to produce a series a single issue briefing that give a clear example of how students and LGBT societies can take action on and understand healthcare issues that affect trans students.
- 

#### **Motion: Fight Back for Mental Health Services!**

##### **Conference Believes:**

1. That, amongst other mental health concerns; 1 in 3 LGBT people are known to attempt suicide, Lesbian and Bisexual women are up to four times more likely to become alcohol dependent and that Gay and Bisexual men are more at risk of eating disorders and body image problems than heterosexual men.\*
2. That LGBT people therefore rely disproportionately on mental health provisions that are in place on the NHS, in our Higher Education institutions and through external mental health providers,
3. That LGBT people also rely on specialist mental health provisions in which the staff are trained in Equality and Diversity and a range of LGBT-specific issues.
4. That the NHS is being cut by £20 billion over the next four years.
5. That mental health services will be one of the first targets for NHS cuts, with the independent regulator of the NHS warning mental health providers to prepare for extra cuts this year.
6. That external mental health services such as 42nd Street in Manchester have had their entire LGBT budgets scrapped.
7. That the teaching budget of Higher Education institutions is being cut by 40%, forcing them to make savings elsewhere.
8. That LGB People are 3 times more likely to take MDMA, 8 times more likely to take Ketamine and 25 times more likely to take Crystal Meth than their straight counterparts.
9. That there is currently no reliable statistics on drug use in the trans community.
10. That 57% of LGBT young people feel that there is not enough unbiased education about drug use which is accessible to the LGBT community.
11. Students for Sensible Drug Policy UK is an organisation which campaigns for a evidence based drug policy and a harm minimisation approach. It has an active LGBT caucus, and affiliation to SSDP is free of charge.

\*PACE Research

##### **Conference Further Believes:**

That mental health problems in LGBT people are often caused and/or exacerbated by experiencing prejudice and isolation from our families, peers and communities.

That LGBT people will be disproportionately affected by cuts to all mental health service.

That cuts to HE institutions will mean, in many cases, cuts to frontline counselling services, staff trained in Equality and Diversity and academic research into the treatment of LGBT people with mental health problems.

That these cuts pose a genuine threat to the safety and livelihood of vulnerable LGBT people and it is therefore vital to prioritize a reaction against them.

That these cuts form one part of a wider ideological attack on the LGBT community in our health, public and education services.

That the use of recreational drugs has very real harms to physical health and to society. That the best drug policy is one that seeks to minimise the harms associated with drug use through unbiased education and the provision of mental health services for those who need it.

That issues surrounding drug use is especially relevant in the LGBT community due to our increased likelihood to take drug and lgbt people who need help with drug or alcohol issues may well respond better to specialist lgbt services.

#### **Conference Resolves:**

To actively support and coordinate campaigns against cuts to the NHS, HE institutions and all other providers of mental health services.

To campaign against staff cutbacks in the above institutions.

To campaign for Equality and Diversity training for all members of staff.

To actively promote an awareness of mental health issues and the contact details of available services through mediums such as literature, websites and through the campaigns of individual LGBT societies.

To demonstrate solidarity with striking workers from the NHS, HE institutions, public services and all other mental health providers.

Work with Students for Sensible Drug Policy UK on appropriate campaigns.

To campaign for provision of specialist lgbt mental health provisions in drug and alcohol services, and campaign for lgbt awareness training for existing mental health practitioners.

To help fight the stigmatisation of drug users and of people with mental health problems.

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#### **Motions: Fighting Cuts in Trans Health Services**

##### **Conference Believes**

1. That the National Health Service is being cut by £20 billion over the next four years.
2. That in response to Freedom of Information requests by the Trades Union Congress, officials confirmed that at least 53,150 NHS staff jobs will be cut across the UK, with a dozen hospitals failing to respond.
3. That full access to healthcare for trans people has only very recently been won in some NHS Primary care trusts, particularly South Wales and Oxfordshire PCTs.
4. That these services are now particularly at risk and indeed that in December 2010 NHS West Kent Primary Care Trust suspended referrals for trans people until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 at the earliest. Referrals for gastric band surgery and IVF treatment have also been suspended.
5. That the suicide rate for trans people is exceptionally high, and that delays in referrals exacerbate the risk of suicide.
6. That NHS services for Trans people are already inadequate; with lengthy waits for Gender Identity Clinics and hormone treatment, GP's failing to refer people for hormone treatment and Trans people facing discrimination within the NHS.\*
7. That policy to the effect that NHS services for Trans people are currently inadequate has previously been passed by this conference.
8. That LGBT people overall rely disproportionately on health and public services.

\*NHS Survey of Patient Satisfaction with Transgender Services, 2008

##### **Conference Further Believes:**

1. That with £20 billion savings expected to be made across the NHS more Primary Care Trusts will follow the example of West Kent and suspend Trans services.
2. That the suspension of Trans services by the NHS reflects an underlying belief that Trans surgery is a lifestyle or cosmetic choice and that this belief is contrary to the NHS's reliance on the WPATH SoC, which state that trans surgery is in no meaningful way cosmetic or elective.
3. That the suspension of Trans surgery represents one part of a wider ideological attack on the LGBT community in our health and public services.
4. That full access to healthcare is essential for trans people, and that we will not accept cuts in our provision.

##### **Conference Resolves:**

1. To oppose commissioning arrangements which place profit over clinical outcomes.
2. To mobilise against the wider cuts agenda and to demonstrate our solidarity with striking health workers and anti-cuts groups within our student unions and wider communities.
3. That we should stand in solidarity with other vulnerable, minority groups such as the elderly, disabled and those who have suffered sexual violence in opposing cuts to services.
4. To closely monitor PCT's provision of healthcare to trans people and other groups as identified above.
5. To lobby commissioning groups and GP consortia to ensure that trans healthcare provision is improved, whatever the outcome of NHS reforms.



## **Motion: The other anti-cuts motion.**

### **Conference Believes:**

1. That Genital Mutilation can be defined as the alteration of a person's genitals without their consent, often at birth.
2. One study estimates complications for non-medical circumcisions as being approximately 0.2%, but the authors suggest this figure is likely to be an underestimate.
3. Bollinger reports that an average of 16 children per year out of about 90,000 died as a result of circumcision in the UK.
4. The penis is lost in 1 in 1,000,000 circumcision operations.

### **Conference Further Believes**

1. That altering a person's genitals for non medical reasons on a non-consensual basis is immoral.
2. Although deaths and complications involved in non-medical circumcisions are relatively low, they still exist, and carrying out those procedures for non-medical reasons, on a non-consensual basis is irresponsible and not in the interests of public health.
3. That although some research has been conducted to suggest that the female bodied sexual partners of circumcised male bodied people experience greater risk of developing Female Sexual Dysfunction, no research has been conducted into the effect of circumcision on same sex partners.
4. That a ban on circumcision would be ultimately irresponsible as it would drive the practice underground, but we should be actively voicing our disagreement to such non-medical procedures and seeking to influence health professionals in this regard.

### **Conference Resolves**

1. To campaign against all non-consensual circumcision.
2. To put together a short report on the issue as a call out for more research into how circumcision effects LGBT people, and circulate this amongst community groups, academics and health professionals.
3. To write a letter to the British Medical Association outlining our disagreement with the practice of non-consensual circumcision and encouraging the BMA to adopt similar policy.

## **Society and citizenship**

### **713 No To Cuts**

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Speech For:     | 2 Minutes |
| Speech Against  | 2 Minutes |
| Speech For:     | 1 Minute  |
| Speech Against: | 1 Minute  |
| Summation:      | 1 Minute  |

### **Conference Believes:**

1. That there have been significant cuts to charities and NGOs who provide services to LGBT people, including Galop and Broken Rainbow
2. That many LGBT youth centres have already been closed
3. That healthcare services for people living with HIV and other STDs have already been threatened, including cuts to Terrence Higgins Trust's budget
4. That many of the first cuts were targeted against asylum seekers and, particularly LGBT asylum seekers
5. That, according to PinkNews, cuts to housing will significantly increase LGBT homelessness
6. That West Kent Health Service suspended all referrals for gender reassignment surgery and hormones
7. That studies by Unison show that cuts to public services disproportionately affect LGBT communities
8. That high unemployment, loss of services and increased poverty fuel bigotry, putting the LGBT community at even greater risk.
9. That there has been a significant upturn in the student movement since last conference
10. That LGBT students have been central to this new movement
11. That it is key to both educate our own members as to why education and public service cuts are LGBT issues
12. That it is key to educate anti-cuts groups about LGBT issues to make sure the anti-cuts movement consistently highlights equality issues

### **Conference Further Believes:**

1. That while the involvement of NUS LGBT in anti-cuts groups has led to our issues being put on the agenda, there is always room for improvement
2. That NUS is very well placed to provide support, information, speakers etc for anti-cuts groups specifically

relating to how cuts will affect us as LGBT students

3. That the economic crisis is a crisis of capitalism, caused by the recklessness of bankers and an economic system that places profit before the needs of people
4. That ordinary people, especially students, recent graduates and working class people are being forced to pay for the crisis through these cuts
5. That LGBT people have been especially marginalised and cut from budgets
6. That the rich people who caused the crisis, and not our communities, should pay for the crisis
7. That alternatives exist in forms of progressive taxation, levies and investment in growth

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To oppose the government's austerity agenda, specifically those cuts disproportionately affecting the LGBT community
2. To draw particular attention to those cuts faced by LGBT people and to raise awareness of the impact of the government's austerity agenda on our communities
3. In light of budget cuts, to push councils to preserve the frontline services which LGBT people depend upon, and provide the appropriate information to help them do so
4. To call for the government to invest in growth, proper jobs and communities
5. To support non-violent direct action, strikes and occupations of affected spaces to ensure that our voices are heard in the fight against the cuts
6. To continue working with groups such as the Education Activist Network, National Campaign Against Fees and Cuts, the Right to Work Campaign and trade unions (especially their LGBT sections)
7. To update the briefing produced this year on how cuts will affect LGBT students
8. To communicate this work with our membership.

**Motion: World Pride 2012**

**Conference believes:**

1. World Pride will be held in London in 2012.
2. That some prides both in the UK and internationally are becoming increasingly commercialised and less political.
3. Some prides internationally are attacked by neo-Nazi's and other homophobic protesters and sometimes the police or are banned outright by the state.

**Conference further believes:**

1. Pride should be political, and NUS LGBT has been active in campaigning to keep Prides political.
2. We have a duty to highlight the cause of the international fight for LGBT liberation.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To continue the 'Pride is a Protest' campaign.
2. To send our solidarity to Pride events that face attacks from Bigots and/or the state.
3. To lobby World Pride organisers to include political and community based events as a part of the events for World Pride.
4. To organise a political event or action to put politics into world pride and raise the case for international solidarity of pride protests.

**Motion: Representation of LGBT People in the Media**

**Conference Believes:**

1. That the media attempt to represent society through fictional and non-fictional programs.
2. That the general representation of LGBT people is negative, showing them as dysfunctional characters that often end in tragedy.
3. That offensive and/or problematic language is often used when discussing Trans people in print media Tabloids e.g incorrect pronouns and terms such as tranny/trannie.
4. That when asked many LGBT people cannot name a positive fictional representation of their community within screen media.

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. While it may seem that soaps and other programs are exaggerated versions of reality, their representations reach the greatest number of people.

2. That many LGBT people find terms such as tranny/trannie incredibly offensive and that using offensive and problematic terminology reinforces the very myths and ideals that we are trying to progress away from.
3. Press For Change and other organizations are already beginning to challenge these representations.

#### **Conference Resolves:**

1. For the NUS LGBT Campaign to contact the main terrestrial channels (BBC1, BBC2, ITV, Channel 4, and 5) to offer guidance and support on fully understanding the wider spectrum of LGBT (QIA+) community.
  2. That the NUS LGBT Campaign will where necessary critique representation of LGBT characters on screen
  3. To work alongside Press for Change and others to communicate with these tabloids explaining why these terms are offensive and request that they do not use them further.
  4. To work with trans media watch to communicate with both the media and the Trans community to provide guidance with representation and how best to influence that representation.
  4. To produce a briefing detailing ideas on how to campaign around this issue including information on how to make a complaint to a broadcasting agency.
- 

#### **Motion: Against Hate, Against Hate-crime legislation**

##### **Conference Believes**

1. The UK currently has hate crime legislation (Criminal Justice Act 2003) which compels a court to consider whether the sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation) of the victim was an aggravating factor for the perpetrator committing the crime.
2. This hate-crime legislation recommends that if the crime was motivated by prejudice, that the perpetrator should receive a tougher sentence. Without the hate-crime legislation aspect, the perpetrator is still likely to be convicted, just suffering a less harsh punishment.
3. That the re-conviction rate in the UK is 57.1% (Home office stats) The re-offending rate is likely to be higher.
4. That Black, LGBT and disabled people are more likely to be put in prison than their counterparts who are not Black, LGBT or disabled.
5. That the Bent Bars project is a project co-ordinating outside volunteers to become pen-pals to LGBT people in prison.
6. Hate Crime legislation is in place to protect the LGBT community alongside many other vulnerable people in our society.
7. Hate Crime legislation allows incidences of homo/bi/trans phobia to be formally recorded and monitored.

##### **Conference Further Believes**

1. That interpersonal violence against the LGBT community happens, not because there are not enough laws, but because LGBT-phobia and prejudice is endemic.
2. That in order to effectively combat crimes based on homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia, we need a proactive, not reactive approach.
3. That the deterrence theory of crime prevention assumes that perpetrators of crime are self-interested rational actors who perform a cost-benefit analysis of their actions before committing a crime.
4. That the deterrence theory of crime prevention is deeply flawed with regards to hate crime, as by definition, the perpetrators are not acting rationally.
5. That the most effective way of dealing with hate crime is through education and empowerment, not through reactive punishment.\*
6. That education inside and outside of prison about LGBT issues is the best way of cutting re-offending rates.
7. That since as LGBT people are disproportionately represented in prisons, it would actually be harmful to the LGBT community to have harsher sentences for homo/bi/transphobes as it would put these vulnerable LGBT people at greater risk.
8. That Hate Crime legislation ensures that perpetrators of homo/bi/transphobic crimes are found guilty of crimes motivated by prejudice, rather than completely random, uncalculated attacks.
9. That Hate Crime legislation is essential to ensure that the amount of homo/bi/transphobic hate crimes can be tracked; we must be able to see the extent of the problem

##### **Conference Resolves**

1. To oppose the current hate crime legislation, and write a letter to the Home Office to this effect.
2. To continue to support LGBT prisoners, and continue our affiliation and promotion of the Bent Bars project.
3. To actively campaign for better education services in prisons.
4. To oppose the privatisation of prisons.
5. To campaign for better LGBT education and training for prison officers.

6. To support prisoners strikes over conditions and the right for prison officers to unionise fully.
7. To delete Conference Resolves 1 and replace with 'To write to the Home Office and express the concerns addressed in conference believes and further believes in motion 702'

**704 'Members Only' and also Say NO to exploitation in our venues!**

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Speech For:     | 2 Minutes |
| Speech Against  | 2 Minutes |
| Speech For:     | 1 Minute  |
| Speech Against: | 1 Minute  |
| Summation:      | 1 Minute  |

**Speech For: Sky Yarlett**

**Conference Believes:**

1. That LGBT bars and clubs sometime use a members only policy.
2. That the clubs that operate this policy judge you on your external characteristics to determine your sexuality.
3. That recently Jeremy Joseph (Owner of G.A.Y London & Heaven & other venues) tweeted "'My birthday wish is for little girls to realise that G-A-Y is a lesbian and gay club so there's only one direction and that's no direction for them'".
4. Club nights such as these, are commercially driven and not inclusive to all members of LGBT people.
5. The venue, G-A-Y Heaven runs a regular club night called Porn Idol.
6. That NUS LGBT runs a 'Reclaim the Scene' campaign.
7. Gone are the days when lesbians are identified by severe short haircuts, however sexist lesbophobic/biphobic door staff still keep that candle of bigotry burning.
8. It is especially concerning that bi people are straight-jacketed into a need to comply with a false and mythical lesbian set of credentials.
9. Frankly it doesn't help that NUSSL still promotes hetero-cis-gendered Flirt! With binary toilet-door representation of a "man" and a "woman".

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. That a "members only" policy a smokescreen to reduce the chances of a straight 'infiltration'.
2. These events relate to stereotypical imagery, sexual promiscuity and alluding to porn, which does not reflect its members and do nothing to celebrate our diversity but to commercialise and make profit.
3. To participate in this patrons are forced to conform to societal stereotypes.
4. That because of Josephs policy "We were turned away because it was too busy to go in and that it was members only, but then the door staff continued to let less 'femme' lesbians in. We spoke to some and they weren't members."

**Conference Resolves:**

1. NUS LGBT to condemn this members only policy.
2. For NUS LGBT to empower and encourage LGBT students/societies to challenge this policy in their local bars and clubs.
3. For the NUS LGBT campaign to oppose and condemn similar events, on the grounds of commercialization of sexual orientation and exploitation
4. For the NUS LGBT campaign to encourage and assist where appropriate, LGBT students and societies to challenge events such as Porn Idol in their local bars and clubs.
5. To prioritise the anti-Flirt policy on the policy book of the Campaign!
6. To reject pressure from straight laddish society on what a bi looks like and the narrow fake imagery of lesbian credentials.
7. To request the Bi Caucus discusses and agrees a statement for the Campaign to release on Bi inclusion (and gender fluid bi relationships)
8. To include diversity within our campaigns on opening up the Scene to promote and support chubs and bears within our campaign and support chubs/bears meeting at the Conference

**Motion: Homophobic Qaddafi and the North African/Arab revolutions**

**Conference Believes:**

1. Colonel Murrur Qaddafi has been in power in Libya nearly 40 years since a armed rising and coup d'état pushed out the Italian colonial-style puppet.
2. His regime has suppressed many groups and may LGBTQ people have been killed, beaten in the streets and have gone missing.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To condemn Qaddafi the Libyan dictator and strongman as a homophobe.
  2. To support the revolts of the North African and Arab peoples in overthrowing their Juntas and Hoaxa-style bully-boy leaders.
- 

**Motion: Demonstrations are good / Homophobia is Bad****Conference Believes:**

1. There has been huge attendance at protests this year in opposition to government cuts and austerity measures
2. That large numbers of young LGBTers have been engaging in protests this year
3. That homophobic, transphobic and misogynist chants and slogans have been used frequently at aforementioned demonstrations

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. That LGBT people will be disproportionately affected by the cuts and austerity measures
2. That homophobic chants and slogans legitimise and trivialise homophobia
3. That the LGBT community should feel able to go on demonstrations without having to endure sexism, transphobia or homophobia on any levels

**Conference Resolves:**

1. That the campaign work to empower students to challenge homophobia on demonstrations
  2. The chasing and hounding of National President Aaron Porter culminating in reports of racist and homophobic chants is to be condemned
  3. To support any officers in the NUS, regardless of their political disagreement with other officers, who experience any forms of discrimination and attack.
- 

**Motion: Theresa May; it's not OK****Conference believes:**

1. That following the May 2010 general election, Theresa May was appointed as Home Secretary and Minister for Women and Equalities.
2. That in 2008 Theresa May vote= in favour of a bill which said that IVF rights should require a male role model, which effectively discriminates against lesbian fertility rights.

**Conference further believes:**

1. That Theresa May has an incredibly poor voting history on issues which directly affect LGBT liberation. And that she votes in 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2008, were votes directly against 'equality=92.
2. That many LGBT people look to the government to ensure that they are heard, equal and liberated.
3. That many members of the general public have not been made aware of Theresa May's voting record (in relation to LGBT issues).
4. That having Theresa May as Minister for women and equalities is disempowering for LGBT people who look to the government to fight for their liberation, and instead see a minister who has actively opposed it.
5. That conference has no confidence in Theresa May in her role as Minister for women and equality.

**Conference resolves:**

1. That NUS LGBT release a public statement demanding the resignation of Theresa May from her role for the reasons listed in the 'conference believes' and 'conference further believes' sections.
2. That this statement be reissued every three months, taking into account any further developments, until Theresa May is no longer Minister for Women and Equalities.
3. That NUS LGBT should actively raise awareness of Theresa May's voting record (in relation to LGBT issues) to students and the wider public, using demonstrations, protests and online or published information. Conference should use these methods to pressure the government into removing her from her role.
4. That the NUS LGBT creates a press release which actively raises awareness of Theresa May's voting record (in relation to LGBT issues) and NUS LGBTs lack of confidence in her, and works=to get it as widely published as possible.

## 714 Stop Visas changes costing lives

### Conference believes

1. The Home Office is proposing new legislation around visas for international students.
2. That this new legislation proposes:
  - a. Post-study work visas to be abolished.
  - b. Going home to re-apply to study in the UK.
  - c. Increased restrictions on working.
  - d. English language requirements to be raised.
  - e. A change in ratio of placements from 50:50 to 66: 33:
3. That some international students come from countries where being LGB and/or T is illegal and/or socially unacceptable and can, depending on the country result in a range of persecution; from the death penalty to estrangement.
4. That the NUS LGBT campaign has policy that is fundamentally anti-borders and against any tightening of border controls.
5. That is very difficult to claim asylum once you are already in the UK on a visa.
1. That on 16th March 2011, Damian Green announced a further immigration reform of an 'investor's visa', comprising the following:
  - a. Foreign tycoons willing to invest £10 million in a British bank account will be allowed to apply to settle in Britain after only two years.
  - b. Those willing to invest £5 million will be allowed to apply after only three years.
  - c. Those willing to invest £1 million will be allowed to settle after five years, but will be exempt from any English language test in their application.
2. That any such investors will be allowed to spend up to 180 days per year outside of the UK and still apply for accelerated settlement.

### Conference Further Believes

1. That some international students come out while they are at a British university.
2. That this new policy makes it harder for students to remain in the UK after studying and may result in persecution of the individual on the return to their country, or that person being forced to stop being open about their LGBT identity.
3. That the policy adds a barrier for students entering the UK for study, and therefore may limit LGBT students opportunities to come to the UK and have the potential to explore their sexual and gender identity.
4. That people may not have been out when they entered the UK on their student visa and that it can be dangerous for people, once out in the UK, to return to their home country.
5. That the UK border agency should be aware of these changes in the circumstances of UK LGBT students, and act to protect them by allowing asylum on these grounds to be made with ease.
6. That on 16th March 2011, Damian Green announced a further immigration reform of an 'investor's visa', comprising the following:
  - a. Foreign tycoons willing to invest £10 million in a British bank account will be allowed to apply to settle in Britain after only two years.
  - b. Those willing to invest £5 million will be allowed to apply after only three years. Those willing to invest £1 million will be allowed to settle after five years, but will be exempt from any English language test in their application.
7. That any such investors will be allowed to spend up to 180 days per year outside of the UK and still apply for accelerated settlement.

### Conference Resolves

1. To support the NUS international students campaign in their work against the new Visa system for international students.
2. To write to the Home Office and to Theresa May, MP for Women and Equalities, explaining how the new Visa regulations will affect LGBT students and why in some circumstances LGBT students need to be able to apply for asylum after they have been in the UK on a study Visa.
3. To run a training session on why the new visas system disproportionately affects LGBT students at LGBT activist training days, and at a other relevant NUS events such as an NUS international students' event or an event for the relevant sabbatical officer.
4. To demand that a representatives of the UK Borders Agency attends a fringe meeting at Conference 2012 and is held to account by LGBT activists and our new International LGBT Caucus
5. To bring in information about the policy of the UKBA to all ATDs next academic year, to build awareness across the campaign.
6. To condemn the hypocritical approach of Damien Green and Theresa May in particular on the matter of immigration reforms.

7. To oppose the privileging of foreign investors within the immigration system as long as this occurs at the cost of those seeking to study and/or seek asylum in the UK.
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### **Motion: Anarchy in the UK**

#### **Conference Believes**

1. That there has been a very negative portrayal of anarchists in the UK media after recent student protests, often amounting to the equation of anarchism with mindless violence.
  2. That anarchism is a political stance with a long history and is often misunderstood.
  3. That a central aspect of anarchism involves a rejection of systems of power which hold many people in oppression.
  4. That many queer people are anarchists, and that for many queer people anarchism is central to their queer politics. Queer Anarchism is intelligible enough as to have its own Wikipedia page and there are a number of anarcho-queer groups active in the UK such as Queer Mutiny and Queeruption.
  5. That contrary to some reports not all students who took part in so-called 'violent' actions such as the Millbank occupation were anarchists; this is inaccurate and is intended as a way to undermine a broad student movement by claiming it has been infiltrated by outsiders.
  6. That some students are indeed anarchists.
  7. That asking a national union's bureaucracy to define what anarchism is, and advocate on its behalf is counterproductive and inconsistent with the grassroots nature of the anarchist movement and the society it wishes to establish.
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### **Motion: Creative Protest and Direct Action**

#### **Conference Believes:**

1. There have been devastating cuts to public services and to Education funding in the Comprehensive Spending Review.
2. That now more than ever, with services for trans people, for those with HIV/AIDS or for those who've suffered abuse or violence being drastically and devastatingly cut, we need to fight for our rights.
3. That a wide range of tactics is beneficial in allowing us to fight back on many fronts; we support a diversity of tactics from legal challenges (such as those issued against the government by the Fawcett Society) to direct action.
4. That creative and innovative tactics from protestors can greatly enhance the efficacy of a protest.
5. That direct action is a valuable and effective means of protest.
6. There has been an increased use of police tactics such as 'kettling' in the UK, and in police violence, particularly by the Metropolitan police at demonstrations against cuts to the education budget and fee rises in November/December 2010.

#### **Conference Further Believes:**

1. That creative tactics are fun, can gain public attention and breathe new life into protest movements.
2. That creative direct action can have a further practical use; for instance the use of body padding by Tute Bianche, the WOMBLES and Ya Basta Association to prevent injury to activists from police batons.
3. LGBT and Queer communities have a proud history of effective direct action; from Stonewall to ACT UP.

#### **Conference Resolves:**

1. To offer workshops on direct action at future Activist Training Days; including creative techniques and how to stay safe on protests or actions.
  2. To encourage protestors to know their legal rights and to assist in this where possible.
  3. To support direct action as a vital and effective tactic in the fight against government cuts.
  4. To offer talks and workshops about the history of direct action within the LGBT and queer community to colleges and Universities.
  5. To encourage universities and colleges to include positive portrayals of this history within LGBT history month celebrations.
  6. To organise a range of pacifist training days for all activists on organising peaceful resistance and protest.
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### **Motion: Supporting the 'National Youth Chances Project'**

#### **Conference Believes:**

1. The 'National Youth Chances Project' aims to be the biggest study into young LGBTQ people's needs.
2. In order to achieve this goal it needs 15,000 16-25 year old LGBTQ people to take part in survey.
3. It will conduct a national survey, with the first one going out in January 2012.
4. It will work with service providers and commissioners so that they can better recognise LGBTQ young people's needs and respond to them more effectively.

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. The NUS LGBT Campaign unites thousands of young LGBTQ people in FE and HE education.
2. It is in the interest of the NUS LGBT Campaign to support any initiatives to look into and improve the lives of young LGBTQ young people.
3. The NUS LGBT Campaign is in position to significantly help the 'National Youth Chances Project' from reaching its goal of getting 15,000 young LGBTQ people to take the survey.
4. That it is in the interest of the NUS LGBT Campaign to get involved in the 'National Youth Chances Project' from the ground up, while opportunities to shape the project still exist.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To support the 'National Youth Chances Project'.
  2. To publicise the 'National Youth Chances Project' to as many LGBTQ young people in FE and HE education, encouraging them to get involved in the project.
  3. To encourage LGBTQ young people in HE and FE education to take the 'National Youth Chances Project' in January 2012.
- 

**Motion: Volunteering - The forgotten direct action**

**Conference believes**

1. That while trying to stop cuts is laudable and should be encouraged we as the NUS LGBT campaign are in a unique position to help charities and NGO's in other practical ways.
2. That we should do everything in our power to stop cuts where we can and build alternatives where cuts have already been made.

**Conference Further Believes**

1. That it is our responsibility as students to be active members of our local communities and to work to help improve the lives of those who spend their lives in areas we may only pass through briefly.
2. That we should all be united in trying to improve the lives of LGBT people locally, nationally and globally.
3. That Volunteers save charities millions of pounds annually

**Conference Resolves**

1. To work with RAG and other fund-raising groups in our universities and nationally to encourage fund-raising activities for the benefit of LGBT charities and NGO's.
  2. To encourage LGBT societies to volunteer with local and national LGBT charities and NGO's.
  3. That the NUS LGBT campaign should work with national and local volunteering groups (including University and SU volunteer schemes) to specifically target and support LGBT volunteers and fund-raisers.
  4. To encourage our Unions and universities to offer meeting space, and other support where appropriate and feasible, to local LGBT groups as a way of helping them conserve budgets that were generally limited before cuts and will be even more constrained where cuts occur.
- 

**Union Development Zone**

**Motion: New Training for the new movement**

**Conference believes**

1. That NUS LGBT run training events for activists and officers such, understanding and supporting liberation, the Activist Training days and the Officer Residential.
2. That these events have been significantly recommended.
3. That we have activists in the campaign with wide range of activist experience
4. In the campaigns against tuition fee rises and education cuts many students have been involved in organising demonstrations and direct action

**Conference further believes**



1. It can be difficult to balance training so that it will be useful to both new activists and experienced ones.
2. Organising demonstrations and direct actions should be encouraged in our campaign.
3. That the skills to organise such action are very valuable.

#### **Conference Resolves**

1. To continue to invest in training activists old and new.
  2. To evaluate the training that we currently run and look into ways of reforming it to improve output and engagement
  3. To include in any training reform space for more advanced campaigns training. Including in depth training on how to organise direct actions, with information on Legal observers and accessibility.
- 

#### **Motion: Institutional Discrimination against Non-Binary Gender Identities**

##### **Conference believes:**

1. That a number of people (usually but not always Trans-identified) are of gender identities which exceed or fall outside the two normalised genders of 'male' and 'female'. Such identities include but are not limited to: genderqueer, bigendered, polygendered, androgyne, and genderfluid.
2. That such people experience institutional discrimination. Some intersects with that of binary-gendered trans people, e.g. gender-segregated toilet/changing facilities, but further institutional discrimination includes:
  - a. forms/documents requiring a choice between 'male' and 'female'
  - b. gender-segregated dress-codes (e.g. skirts for women, ties for men)
  - c. prevalent binary-gendered language and misrecognition of gender-neutral pronouns, e.g. 'zie' and singular 'they'.

##### **Conference further believes:**

1. That in 2010, LGBT Conference resolved to lobby for inclusion of non-binary issues in the trans rights agenda, legal recognition of non-binary gender identities, and support student activists and LGBT societies in lobbying their unions on non-binary gender issues (such as mandatory collection of title/gender on forms).
2. That in February 2011, Cambridge University Student Union piloted a campaign entitled "Think Outside The Box" (hereafter TOTB) aiming to prevent institutional discrimination against non-binary-gendered people.
3. That TOTB provides a valuable pool of resources, including: posters, model letters, a gender-neutral language glossary, a briefing on making data-gathering forms more inclusive to non-binary trans people, and recommendations on individual gender-neutral toilet/changing facilities.
4. That in March 2011, TOTB launched nationally alongside their awareness-raising campaign "Non-Binary Genders in the 2011 Census".

##### **Conference resolves:**

1. To support TOTB's national launch by: a) publicising it online (via Facebook, the mailing list, and website); b) producing an infopack on non-binary issues that expands on the existing TOTB material; c) distributing printed infopacks to student unions and encouraging action.
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#### **Out in Sport – Using the Legacy of the Olympics for change**

##### **Conference Believes:**

1. That sport is still full of a lot of homo/bi/trans phobia and that in some sports there are very few out LGBT professionals.
2. The Swedish footballer Anton Hysen has recently come out as gay, and is the first elite Swedish player to come out
3. England Cricketer Steven Davies has also come out as gay.
4. There have been several "out" professional rugby players, with Gareth Thomas being the most recent to come out.
5. That on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March Equalities Minister Lynne Featherstone launched "Tackling Homophobia and Transphobia in Sport: The Charter for Action", which has amongst its signatories the FA, the RFL and the ECB.
6. That sport in schools is still very (binary) gender specific and usually taught in single sex classes until GCSE level.
7. That the lesbian stigma is unfortunately alive and thriving in many women's sports.
8. That London will host the 2012 Olympics.
9. That according to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the International Olympic Committee's

“Stockholm Census” on trans participation in competition falls short of the requirements set out in the Gender Recognition Act of 2004.

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. That sport benefits a person physically, socially and mentally
2. That the RFL has much better equality and diversity provision than the FA, and that this has helped to make the sport more accepting of diversity, and more accessible.
3. The FA has made weak attempts to address the homophobia in football, and this is why there is still a major problem.
4. That some previous sports professionals to have come out have faced large amounts of homophobia.
5. That the LGBT community should show support to people who have come out, both to support them as individuals and to encourage others to come out.
6. That the PE national curriculum enforces sexist gender stereotypes and heteronormativity.
7. That all restrictions on participation in segregated sport should be based on sound clinical standards, and that any competitor whose eligibility is questioned should be treated with dignity and respect, and afforded the same privacy as would apply to any other issue of personal identity or medical status.
8. That questions regarding the eligibility of Caster Semenya to compete in female competition following the 2009 IAAF World Championship were handled extremely poorly by the international media in what amounted to a gross breach of her personal privacy.
9. Gay and bisexual women are increasingly discriminated against in amateur level sport.
10. That there are funding pots available for training and campaigning due to the legacy of the Olympics project.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. NUS LGBT publishes a statement in support of people that have come out in professional sport.
2. That the Officers look into the possibility of getting a recently out person from Professional sport to speak at a NUS LGBT event.
3. To engage Sports Officers, Trainee PE Teachers and others responsible in Universities and Colleges for sport in training on how to combat homo/bi/trans phobia.
4. To encourage students’ unions to send their sports and activities officers on Understanding and Supporting Liberation and LGBT activist training days
5. To work with Schools Out, LGBT History Month, Pride Sports and British Universities and Colleges Sport to determine the best methods for getting homophobia out of school, college and university sports.
6. To encourage and support LGBT Sports groups within our unions
7. To lobby our Athletic Unions and associated groups to sign The Charter for Action
8. To work with BUCS to promote The Charter on our campuses and ensure that our Athletic Unions are aware of their obligations with respect to the inclusion of trans students
9. To seek assurances from the Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games that UK law regarding Gender Recognition will be upheld in all aspects of the 2012 Games.

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**Motions: Cross Liberation Working groups**

**Conference Believes:**

1. There are four liberation campaigns within the NUS– Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Campaign, Disabled Students Campaign, Black Students Campaign, and the Women’s Campaign.
2. All campaigns fight discrimination and the associated stigma from being part of a liberation group.
3. Working together, NUS’ disabled students campaign, black student’s campaign and LGBT campaigns successfully lobbied, alongside the Mental Health Alliance, for the mental health legislation to be changed. Now, thanks to the House of Lords, people cannot be sectioned solely on the basis of their sexual orientation, political, religious or cultural beliefs. <http://www.nus.org.uk/About-NUS/NUS-Successes/Wins-for-Liberation-campaigns/>

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. Liberation work is stronger when it looks at the root causes of oppression. This involves liberation campaigns working together.
2. Each liberation campaign has its own strengths which we can utilise. e.g the the LGBT campaign has a large number of activists, many of whom also define as disabled. We could utilise this to encourage people to set up disabled students societies in their unions.
3. Each Campaign has an LGBT Rep whose role in part is to keep their own committee updated on the work of the LGBT campaign.
4. A Cross Liberation working Group has recently been set up by disabled students reps, and this has been helpful to discuss what the other campaigns are doing.

5. A version of this motion has already been sent to the Disabled students campaign.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To set up a formal cross liberation working group to allow for better communication between liberation campaigns and learn from each other's strengths. This group will include the following elected representatives: LGBT Officers, Black Students Committee LGBT Rep, Women's Committee LGBT Rep, Disabled students committee LGBT rep.
  2. The individuals involved in the group should report back to their own liberation campaign, encourage their caucus to get involved in the LGBT campaign and advertise important dates i.e motion deadlines, conference etc.
  3. To send motions to the women's campaign and Black student's campaign to make participation in this group a part of each elected disabled rep's role and encouraging these representatives to attend disabled student committee meetings.
  4. To actively encourage our own caucus representatives to attend the meetings of the other liberation campaigns. i.e The NUS LGBT campaign disabled rep attend the disabled students committee meetings.
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**Motion: Bisexuality – Sexism in Raunch Culture**

**Conference Believes:**

1. That many members of our campaign define as bisexual or as being attracted to people of more than one gender.
2. That there are some very apparent negative stereotypes of bisexual people especially women.
3. That there is a pressure on 'the scene' to conform to these stereotypes. Meaning our own community is reinforcing these stereotypes.

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. That most popular images of bisexual women are related to raunch culture or the porn industry, mainly for profit.
2. The media reinforce the stereotypes of bisexual people.
3. That there is a huge taboo in society for men to be bisexual.
4. Biphobia comes from the LGBT community as well as from the straight community.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. For the NUS LGBT campaign to promote positive role models of bi people.
  2. For the campaign to engage with the bi community on these issues.
  3. To campaign against the commercialisation of our sexuality for profit and exploitation.
  4. To campaign against biphobia in all its forms and out with the LGBT community.
- 

**Motion: Information and growth**

**Conference believes:**

1. That many LGBT societies across the country hold similar events, and run similar campaigns, and generally have the same ethos and mentality.
2. That the more people engage with LGBT societies, the more they engage with LGBT liberation and the more inclined they are to fight for it.
3. That pooling information and learning from each other's experiences is a vital way to improve LGBT societies, our LGBT campaigns and our welfare systems.

**Conference further believes:**

1. That many LGBT society committees and members have little engagement with NUS and with other societies from different parts of the country.
2. That NUS connect is inaccessible and under-used (have you even heard of it?)
3. That information, education and online resources should not be reserved for sabbatical officers, their friends and people who feel comfortable approaching them. Instead it should be easily and freely available to everyone.
4. That with modern technology it would be easy to create an incredibly useful online forum and database which could be used by everyone

**Conference resolves:**

1. To create an accessible online space where people can access information and resources for LGBT campaigns and common events (including, but not limited to LGBT history months, world AIDS day, trans day of remembrance etc.)
  2. That these resources should not be password protected.
  3. That the NUS LGBT campaign should promote these resources to every university LGBT group and as widely as they can.
  4. To create an online forum, which anyone can join, which focuses on pooling ideas for and discussing LGBT liberation, LGBT society functioning, LGBT society events, national and regional joint events, FAQs about LGBT issues, LGBT welfare ideas, FE issues, and other topics there is demand for.
  5. To consider using the information which builds up from discussion to create a physical document which will be well informed and useful for every HE or FE institution.
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## **Education Zone**

### **Motion: LGBT Monitoring in Universities and Colleges**

#### **Conference Believes:**

1. As part of the new Equality Legislation, institutions have to demonstrate how they are making an impact on the lives of LGBT students; monitoring is very important to this.
2. The purpose of collecting data would be to help improve the learning experience of different students. Research by the Equality Challenge Unit has found that where there isn't BME representation within HE structures that BME students within those structures do not have the appropriate support and so don't do as well. NUS have found that 44% of BME students achieve a 2:1 or 1<sup>st</sup> whereas their white peers have a 60% chance of achieving the same.
3. Unless institutions have this data then they have no way of seeing if there are any similar issues that could help support and improve the experience of LGBT students.
4. As Conference will know, there are high levels of harassment and bullying for young LGBT people. 46.8% of students in HE have encountered homophobic/biphobic comments.
5. HE and FE Institutions cannot know whether they are providing sufficient provisions for LGBT students unless they know how many of their students are LGBT.

#### **This Conference Further Believes:**

1. Many of the arguments against this motion are not founded in fact. People have suggested that International Students do not feel comfortable disclosing this kind of information. The Life Long Learning UK have conducted a piece of research that has suggested that those students who come to the UK found that the diversity of the UK is part of the reason they chose to study here, and so that argument is unfounded.
2. At the University of Leeds students voted to support the below proposals, as suggested by their Equality and Diversity Officer. The University was open to the idea and will be collecting sexual orientation monitoring data from the 2011 intake of students. This is therefore possible and important.

#### **This Conference Resolves:**

1. Find out which HE and FE institutions are already collecting monitoring data on LGBT students.
  2. Create a model of best practice to give to HE and FE Institutions and lobby them to adopt the proposed practice.
  3. Create a proposed strategy to give to Union's in order that their Sabbatical Officers can effectively lobby their Universities to begin collecting the data.
  4. That every HE and FE Institution should collect monitoring data in order that they can assess whether they are providing sufficient resources and provisions for their LGBT students.
  5. The information gathered should always be confidential and there should be an option of 'prefer not to say'
  6. To mandate the committee to find out the statistics for senior managers, governors and directors of Universities/Colleges for LGBT status, pay grade, gender designation/fluidity
  7. Campaign for the gender binary box to be removed from statistic forms
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### **Motion: NUS LGBT and Schools Out!**

#### **Conference Believes:**

1. Homophobic bullying is endemic in schools and is continued throughout education.
2. Rates of suicide and self harm are considerably higher among LGBT young people compared with young people that are not LGBT.

3. LGBT young people are more likely than other young people to leave education at 16 rather than continuing their studies because of bullying.
4. As well as homophobia, exclusive heterosexism in educational institutions is damaging and can increase the feelings of isolation for LGBT people.
5. Head teachers in England and Wales are required to develop policies and procedures to prevent all forms of harassment (Schools Standard and Framework Act 1989).
6. In Scotland schools must have an annual plan to encourage equal opportunities (standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000).
7. in the Aftermath of section 28 teachers and staff are still in a state of confusion over how to address issues involving sexuality.
8. Homophobic and Transphobic language is rife within the classrooms within the UK.
9. LGBT History Month first took place in the UK in the month of February 2005 after the abolition of prohibiting discussion of homosexuality, especially in schools.
10. One of the ways in which we can celebrate LGBT people in history, as well as the LGBT liberation movement, is through emphasising the importance of LGBT History Month.
11. That holding public events and campaigns during LGBT History Month helps raise awareness of LGBT history and struggles in wider society.

**Conference further believes:**

1. Schools have a responsibility for the moral as well as the academic education of their pupils.
2. Homophobic attitudes at all levels of education leave a lasting effect on all young people. Attitudes developed when young can last a lifetime.
3. Homophobic attitudes can be communicated to young people by indirect means, such as not including discussion of LGBT people in lesson plans where it would be appropriate to do so, and this can be very damaging.
4. The damaging effect of bullying can endure long after it occurs, and this can have long-lasting implications for the mental health of LGBT people, which can damage their ability to access and succeed in education.
5. Educational Institutions have a responsibility to provide an educational environment free from intimidation for pupils and staff.
6. Teachers need to be provided with guidelines and recommended methods to work with issues around sexuality.
7. Teachers also need to be trained to integrate sexual diversity into the core curriculum subjects.
8. That PGCE courses often contain very little information about LGBT issues meaning that newly qualified teachers can have very little idea of how to challenge these issues or make the curriculum LGBT inclusive.
9. The NUS LGBT Campaign makes LGBT History Month information packs available to officers, including ideas and tips on event organising. These packs can be very useful for officers when planning History Month events.
10. That these packs were not made available this year until February the 14<sup>th</sup> 2011.
11. That making these packs available and briefing officers on LGBT History month earlier would make it easier for bigger events to be organised and publicised.
12. These information packs, while full of helpful information, are the only resources available to officers from the NUS LGBT Campaign that deal with LGBT History Month directly.

**Conference resolves:**

1. For the NUS LGBT Campaign to promote Schools Out and its work to LGBT societies.
2. For NUS LGBT Campaign to encourage societies to contact Schools Out directly with regards to their localized campaigns, and working to tackle homophobia, bi-phobia and trans-phobia in their local community.
3. To continue to work with Schools Out to promote LGBT History Month.
4. To work with students studying courses relating to education (both HE and FE) to try and increase the coverage of LGBT and other liberation issues within their own training and liaise with Schools out and the No Outsiders project on this work.
5. To reaffirm our commitment to celebrating LGBT History Month
6. To support drives to teach LGBT History in schools, colleges and universities.
7. To aim for resource packs to be available to LGBT officers and societies by December so they have more time to plan.
8. That all Unions should be encouraged to hold LGBT History Month events, and that extra help should be given where necessary.
9. For the NUS LGBT Officers and Committee to offer, to try to help and appear at as many different campus events during LGBT History Month as is possible.
10. To encourage officers to share resources with the NUS LGBT Campaign, so a wide pool of helpful resources can be created for all LGBT Campaigns to use.

11. The LGBT History Month must not only be about Western “history”, it must Look East and Embrace Africa, including Black Africa, the former Soviet republics and the oriental countries.
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### **Motion: Solidarity with Lecturers and Academic Staff**

#### **Conference Believes:**

1. Lecturers and academic staff underpin our education
2. The education sector has come under unprecedented attacks from the coalition government
3. Cuts to jobs and education resources jeopardise the future of our education
4. We must work with academic staff to defend jobs and education and any Union and LGBT Branch of those unions who work for academic staff.

#### **Conference Further Believes:**

1. Workers in the education sector, and particularly academic staff, have historically led the way on LGBT liberation
2. The first job cuts are nearly always targeted at the most marginalised workers – particularly Black, women, disabled and LGBT workers
3. Such attacks on education will disadvantage LGBT students, who often rely on support from academic staff to remain in higher education
4. That if our campaign is to be successful, we must work as fully as possible with academic staff to achieve our ends
5. The employers’ report on the longevity and sustainability of the USS pension scheme is in striking contrast with the independent report and the Trades’ Union commissioned reports
6. Pension schemes for the vast majority of staff at our Universities and Colleges ensure a secure and dignified retirement. Many staff are not super-rich, some only earning one tenth of the Vice-Chancellors and senior administrators of Colleges and Universities.
7. Moving to an average salary scheme from final salary and increasing employees’ contributions is a pay cut in all but name and more often prices more undervalued and under paid staff out of academic service – traditionally not a high paid career.

#### **Conference Resolves:**

1. To continue to work with and show solidarity to unions from Academic staff, and the LGBT Branches of these unions
2. To publicly express solidarity with all academic staff who are fighting for their jobs and against the cuts
3. To support strikes, direct action and occupations as they are undertaken by academic staff
4. REPLACE “academic” with “academic, academic-related and professional support staff” throughout the motion.

### **Motion: Homophobia in Science**

#### **Conference believes:**

1. Students of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects suffer the highest amount of homophobia from staff and other students than any other subject areas.
2. Due to overt homophobia displayed by members of staff or lecturers LGBT STEM students are far less likely to reveal their sexuality.
3. Because of this institutional homophobia LGBT people do not feel safe or comfortable studying STEM subjects so are more likely to choose a more liberal subject.

#### **Conference further believes:**

1. The grades and mental health of science LGBT students suffer due to the homophobia
2. Less LGBT people go into STEM subjects due to isolation and perceived homophobia

#### **Conference resolves**

1. For the NUS LGBT campaign to work on targeting homophobia in science by producing research on the subject specifically and tackling the route of it.
  2. To work with groups such as The Gatsby foundation to help LGBT people get into science.
-

## **Motion: Education: Defend Queer and Gender Studies!**

### **Conference Believes**

1. That the Con-Dem government plan to cut the education budget for humanities subjects by 100%
2. That Gender and Queer studies departments fall under this attack on higher education.

### **Conference Further Believes**

1. That the establishment of Gender and Queer studies departments represent a gain to the LGBT movement, offering us an increased academic legitimacy.
2. That cuts to Gender and Queer studies not only represent a threat to our education but also a threat to the continued academic debate and propagation of ideas around sexuality and gender.
3. As such, the attack on these academic departments will be implicitly sexist, homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic

### **Conference Resolves**

1. To actively oppose all cuts to higher education.
2. To specifically write to every Gender and Queer studies department offering our solidarity, help and resources if needed.
3. To put Gender and Queer Studies departments and trade unionists within these departments in touch with local LGBT activists and anti-cuts groups in students unions, in order for them to co-ordinate efforts against these attacks.
4. To officially support all university workers striking over pay and conditions.
5. To support a wide range of actions against the attacks on education including; letter-writing and lobbying, petitions, protests, direct action, strikes and occupations.
6. That NUS LGBT campaign should actively promote the values of these departments and write a brief document on "Winning the Argument" for sabbatical officers, LGBT activists and anti-cuts groups to augment their campaigns.
7. To identify key academics in the fields of Gender and Queer Studies who will be prepared to act as ambassadors for the value of these departments asking them to promote the subject and to advocate against the cuts.
8. To include case-studies of students from these departments to outline the value that queer and gender studies adds to a persons education, and enhanced understanding of LGBT issues.
9. To officially support all university workers striking over pay and conditions and to support those workers who are taking action short of a strike and those considering industrial action.
10. To encourage LGBT students to join picket lines with University and College staff and furnish them with placards and messages of solidarity.

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## **606 Zuck Off!**

### **Conference believes**

1. Professor Ken Zucker is a clinical psychologist who was invited as a keynote speaker to the Division of Clinical Psychology annual conference this year.
2. Zucker's work includes the "treatment" and diagnosis of children with Gender Identity Disorder. This diagnosis is based on rigid gender roles, with young girls choosing not to dress in stereotypically 'feminine' clothes being a common reason for referral to Zucker's GID clinic.
3. Zucker's treatment involves forcing children to conform to rigid gender roles.
4. Zucker is quoted as saying "Parents bring their children to me because they do not want them to grow up gay".
5. Zucker is also Chair of the DSM Working Group proposing 'Paraphilic Coercive Disorder' for the American Psychiatric Associations Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders (DSM-5).
6. Paraphilic Coercive Disorder diagnosis involves an individual having had 'forced sex on three or more non-consenting persons'.
7. In December, the University of Manchester LGBT held a protest against Zucker at the DCP Conference
8. Conference has previously declared that Julie Bindle is a transphobe and has agreed that no representatives of NUS will "share a platform" with her because of her hateful views and statements about trans people.
9. Bindle has stated on many occasions that trans people are mutilants and butchers of their bodies.
10. That Julie Bindel is vile.

### **Conference Further believes**

1. That being LGBT is not something to be "cured" by forcing patients to conform to roles they do not feel comfortable with.

2. That we should be “treating” society by campaigning against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia, not encouraging “ex-trans” or “ex-gay” therapy as a way for LGBT individuals to escape LGBT-phobia.
3. That the inclusion of Paraphilic Coercive Disorder has the potential to be grossly misused in the legal system, providing a “get off clause” for serial rapists.
4. That whilst mental health is an issue to be taken into account when dealing with serial rapists, Paraphilic Coercive Disorder's inclusion into the DSM-5 will legitimise a methodologically unsound theory and largely work against feminist efforts to broaden the definition of rape.
5. Paraphilic Coercive Disorder shouldn't be taught uncritically within University Psychology Depts.
6. That Zucker's theories and practices on Gender Identity Disorder should similarly not be taught uncritically in Psychology Depts.

### **Conference resolves**

1. To continue to stage protest against Zucker's views as outlined in believes and further believes at any event at which Professor Zucker is speaking in the UK if feasible.
2. To write a letter to the American Psychiatric Association outlining our opposition to the inclusion of Paraphilic Coercive Disorder into the DSM-5, as in line with believes and further believes.
3. To publicly condemn the Division of Clinical Psychology for giving Professor Zucker a platform.
4. To write a letter to every Dean of Psychology schools outlining our opposition to Zucker's views being taught in Psychology classes uncritically, and to encourage workers and academics in psychology depts to critically engage in the subject.
5. To condemn the Royal College of Psychiatrists for having Bindle talk at the annual meeting on the subject of “There is no such a thing as a real woman (or a real man, for what matters). A feminist perspective on Gender Identity Disorder”
6. To tear down the vile concept of Gender Identity Disorder as a vicious and hurtful bandage that Bindle and transphobes wrap trans people up in!

### **Emergency Motions**

#### **Motion: Maximising Opportunities to Participate with Budget Cuts**

Conference believes:

1. From the perspective of chairing the caucuses on Friday and Saturday morning at this Conference, Steering Committee has noticed that some of the caucuses have seen a dramatic decline in attendance.
2. Specifically, numbers for Trans Caucus dwindled, and a dramatic decline of attendees was seen for Further Education caucus, Mature Students caucus, Black Students caucus.
3. There are dedicated delegate places for all Constituent Members for Black and Trans delegates, introduced in 2009 and first rolled-out in 2010, which saw a good increase in numbers of delegates attending Black and Trans caucuses in 2010.
4. This Conference is the largest delegate attending LGBT conference “since records began”, so it is extremely concerning for us as a Steering Committee about what has caused this.

Conference Further believes:

1. We budget annually for around 7-10 “fee waivers” to enable free places to be allocated to Constituent Members who are in financial dire straits.
2. This year the National Committee did a dedicated “ring round” to Further Education institutions encouraging participation in the campaign too. The vast majority of fee waivers were allocated to FE delegates.
3. The drop in FE attendance at the caucus could be down to it being held last on the Friday and some of the delegates not having arrived as yet, but due to the deadline for Emergency Motions, some degree of speculation has been necessary in this motion to enable Conference to be aware – and to discuss this on the Sunday.
4. In 2009 the Steering Committee was mandated to work with the NUS Trustee Board on expenses and budget for participation at LGBT Conference (which has resulted in a revised expenses code being agreed across the organisation for volunteers and an agreed “fee waiver” budget).



Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the Steering Committee to review, with representatives of the National Committee and the Officers the opportunities to participate at this Conference, the deadlines for applying for “fee waivers”, the guidelines for application and possibilities of creating a “pool fare” system to fund more places at a reduced rate or free for low participation unions, financially strained unions and the whole FE sector.
  2. For the Steering Committee to harvest views and feedback from delegates that attended on their experience, opportunities to participate and suggestions for making conference financially viable for low participation delegate groups.
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### **Motion: Priority Ballots**

Proposer: Steering Committee

Conference Believes:

1. Conference 2010 resolved to alter the way in which the order of motions is decided.
2. That Standing Order currently reads:  
“At conference, the Steering Committee shall circulate a form on which voting members of Conference may indicate the order in which they wish the Zones and/or motions to be taken for discussion.”

Conference Further Believes:

1. If the order of motions was decided at conference, motions documents would not be printed in the order that motions would be discussed.
2. That priority ballots on the order of motions should therefore be held in advance of conference, via email.
3. That these ballots should be well advertised, and ballot papers should be emailed to delegates’ individual email addresses, not just to delegate leaders or CM staff members.

Conference Resolves:

1. To delete from Standing Order 172:  
“At conference”
  2. To add to the Standing Orders:  
“Priority ballots on the order of motions should be open for no less than five (5) working days.”
- 

### **Brighton Pride Ticketing**

Conference Believes:

1. That Pride festivals are a highlight on the LGBT calendar.
2. That Pride should celebrate LGBT history and culture as well as fight for LGBT rights.
3. That funding for local LGBT/HIV community groups should also be at the centre of what Pride does.
4. That some Prides have lost their roots and are now focused on commercialism, drinking and parties.
5. That Pride should be accessible to all LGBT people and anyone else interested in promoting LGBT equal rights and/or learning about our community.
6. That Brighton Pride is now charging.
7. That due to a lack of transparency Pride in Brighton & Hove finances are unclear, but it is known that upwards of £60,000 of debt has accumulated over a minimum of the last 3 yrs.
8. That as soon as the ticket prices were released LGBrighton and Sussex LGBTQ began a campaign for free, Political, community-led events.
9. That Pride is often the first event which LGBT people, particularly youth, can attend openly. Charging raises barriers to this.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That ticket prices for Brighton Pride were announced as being from £8.50 to £17.50 for a few hours in Preston Park.
2. Originally there were no concessions for children, students, the unemployed, homeless or older community.
3. That those most likely to be excluded from this event are those most in need of contact with, and support from the local LGBT community.
4. That for the past 3 years Pride in Brighton & Hove has raised no money for the Rainbow Fund; The community group which provides grants to LGBT/HIV groups in Brighton & Hove.
5. That other Prides charge. When Manchester Pride first charged in 2000 it raised no money for charity and so reverted to being free again for a few years. The subsequent year it raised over £90,000.
6. That many community groups in Brighton & Hove have declared that they will be unable to attend Brighton Pride due to the cost.
7. There will be the St James St Street Party as usual this year; A free event which is expected to receive 300% more visitor than it can handle, making it untenable.
8. That NUS LGBT campaigns for free, accessible and Political Prides, an ethos which Pride in Brighton & Hove has clearly abandoned.
9. That Pride in Brighton & Hove as a charitable organisation does not answer to the community or represent them in anyway.

Conference Resolves:

1. To publicly condemn the ticket pricing put forward by Pride in Brighton & Hove.
  2. To support LGBriGhton and Sussex LGBTQ with the work they are doing to create more free events with other community groups.
  3. To attend Brighton Pride Parade with the student and youth groups to campaign against Prides which charge, as well as to add a Political message about LGBT rights in the UK and abroad.
  4. To support the aim of the dissolution of Pride in Brighton & Hove as a charitable organisation in favour of the establishment of a community-wide collaboration to deliver a community-led, Political Pride.
- 

## **Better FE Representation in Conference**

Conference Believes:

1. FE unions make up around 70% of NUS membership but only around 30% of them are actively take part in NUS events.
2. FE institutions have a completely different union structure to HE unions.
3. That some FE institutions do not wish to engage or support LGBT students.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the way the fee waivers process and motion deadlines are advertised to FE unions could be improved.
2. That some FE colleges have no delegates at this conference because they were unaware of the chance to apply for fee waivers, or were unaware of how the process worked, and when the deadline was.
3. All delegates should be equals at conference and having difference voting cards goes against this.
4. FE colleges have a much smaller budget to use for conferences than HE institutions.
5. That with savage cuts affecting education, it is becoming harder than ever for FE to fund attendance to NUS events.
6. That the vast majority of motions submitted are from HE about HE issues.
7. Some FE institutions have a very small inactive or no students union which makes the current registration system very difficult and inaccessible for FE.
8. That if an FE student doesn't have a student union, registration is left to a single staff member who can unsupportive and unwilling to help.

Conference Resolves:

1. Fee waivers should be clear and advertised in advance to all unions with specific effort to contact FE institutions.
2. Better and clearer communication of all deadlines and procedures FE institutions.

3. To reform the registration process for FE delegates
  4. To support LGBT students attend conference when staff members do not.
- 

## Report Sessions

Proposer: Steering

Conference Believes:

1. In the Open Place report session, questions are often asked of the Open Place officer about work that the women's place officer has been taking a lead on.

Conference Further Believes:

1. In Women's Caucus (report session), delegates indicated that they thought it unfair that only women are able to hear the report of the Women's place officer and women's reps about the work they do.
2. The present system means that a lot of women's caucus time is taken up with questions about general work that the Women's Place Officer and women's reps have been doing, rather than about work that specifically relates to women.
3. Women's caucus indicated that they would like to change the present system, to allow the Women's Place Officer and women's reps to deliver their reports and to take questions for information not scrutiny to the whole of conference.
4. That the vote on whether to approve the Women's Place Officer's report and the women's reps reports should remain within women's caucus, as these positions should remain accountable to women's caucus.

Conference Resolves:

1. That Steering should alter the standing Orders to reflect the changes requested, in consultation with committee and the Officers.
- 

## Consistent Standing Orders

Conference believes:

1. That recent conferences have voted to expand the definition of the membership of the campaign.
2. That the standing order relation to who is entitled to stand for steering committee was not changed.
3. At present, Standing Order 246 reads:  
"The Steering Committee shall consist of five (5) members. Only individual members of the National Union who self-define as Lesbian, Gay Bisexual or Trans are eligible to stand for election to the Steering Committee."

Conference further believes:

1. All those who are part of the membership of the campaign should be entitled to stand for election to steering committee.

Conference resolves:

1. To delete from Standing Order :  
"as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Trans"  
And replace with:  
"into the membership of the campaign"

## Policy Passed at LGBT conference 2012

### Education

Consent is Sexy!

#### Conference Believes:

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

#### Conference Further Believes:

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

#### Conference Resolves:

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

Against HESA Student Records for 2012/2013 academic year.

#### Conference Believes:

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

#### Conference Further Believes:

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

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

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference further believes:**

1. That financial barriers to education hit LGBT students harder
2. That debt and financial stress have a more negative impact on LGBT students who are estranged or in fear of estrangement.
3. That government policies are likely to worsen drop-out rates and mental health rates for LGBT students (which are already higher than our straight and cis colleagues)
4. That the withdrawal of EMA will have a devastating impact on the lives of many young LGBT students, at a time in life that is often particularly challenging for us
5. That the lack of LGBT provisions in FE unions (and the lack of unions at all in many FE institutions) will leave these students with no support
6. That cuts to LGBT charities and services will compound all of these problems.
7. Cuts are hitting the courses with the most LGBT content hard. In some cases complete departments are being shut.

8. Cuts are destroying enrichment programs in colleges, which is commonly the only place where LGBT activity exists.
9. Vital services such as counselling services which LGBT students access disproportionately are feeling the brunt of cuts in the education sector.
10. That LGBT societies need to be equipped with the resources and the inspiration to not only attend these national demonstrations but to keep the momentum up on their own campuses and cities.
11. UK Uncut have wide-ranging visual campaigns from flashmobs to internet videos that they use to protest at a low cost.

**Conference resolves:**

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

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The 'F' Word

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

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Gay Dumbledore

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

Get to School!

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference further believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

Small and specialist colleges

**Conference believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference resolves:**

1. To mandate the LGBT Officers and FE reps to hold a meeting with the FE Officer to plan the best course of action to create an LGBT Officer in every union.
2. To provide and update a toolkit aiming at helping small and specialist college union LGBT Officers as to how to set up an LGBT group/society at an institution that may have limited resources and funding compared to

other larger College Unions.

3. To link small and specialist colleges with local LGBT groups to ensure they have the local support they need, and a wide experience base.
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## Welfare Zone

### Mental Health Matters

#### **Conference Believes:**

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

#### **Conference Further Believes:**

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

#### **Conference Resolves:**

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

## Estrangement and Homelessness

#### **Conference believes:**

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

#### **Conference further believes:**

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

#### **Conference Resolves:**

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



estrangement and other issues.

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Women who sleep with women's sexual health

**Conference believes:**

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

**Conference further believes:**

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

**Conference resolves:**

1. To create a myth busting campaign which LGBT societies, officers and students can use to inform any campaigns they run around sexual health.
  2. To lobby the NHS to recognise and validate women who sleep with women as demographic whose data is worth recording.
- 

I'm not bi-curious, I'm bi-furious!

**Conference Notes:**

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

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

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

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

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

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To contact Diva magazine encouraging them to include more content about bi women, and to actively counter negative stereotypes.
2. To do the equivalent for magazines catering for MSM where appropriate.

3. To continue to challenge biphobia wheresoever it is found.
  4. To hold a workshop about challenging biphobia at the NUS LGBT Activist Training Days
- 

## Liberate Yourself

### Conference Believes

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

### Conference Resolves

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

## Keeping the Faith

### This Conference Believes

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

### This Conference Further Believes

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

### This Conference Resolves

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

We need protection!

### Conference Believes:

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

### Conference Further Believes:

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

Liberating Drag Kings!

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

Supporting and Defending LGBT Welfare

**Conference Believes:**

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

feelings of same sex attraction.

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

Trans Parenting Rights!

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To champion trans rights in 2012/13, including at training days and workshops put on by the campaign
- 

Women and LGBT People Throughout Society – Including Central to House of Lords Reform! End the Appointed Geritocracy!

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. The reform agenda has been brewing for over 130 years, with the biggest leap forward coming in the passing of the Parliament Act 1911 which blocked the Lords' from stopping the will of the Commons and from voting on any "money bill". In 1999, the Labour Government legislated to restrict the hereditary peerage in the House of Lords.

2. There are a handful of well known LGBT members of the Lords, some of whom even are LGBT rights campaigners and activists, others are general sympathisers to the “cosy consensus” that is built in to the Westminster political elite.
3. If there are going to be elections to the House of Lords, we must campaign to ensure that it is not going to get dominated once again by the “one percent”.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. For the Committee to draw up a response to the consultation on the future of the House of Lords
  2. For the response to support gender balance in the new Lords.
- 

No Place For Hate

**Conference believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference resolves:**

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

Specific Healthcare for LGBT people

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

**Save Trans Treatment****Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

1. Not to oppose GID until it is considered safe to do so.

**Society and Citizenship Zone****Body elitism in the LGBT Community**

**Conference believes:**

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

**Conference further believes:**

1. This body elitism can cause people to develop eating disorders, diet in unhealthy ways, exercise excessively, take diet pills, skip meals, use smoking or drugs as appetite suppressants and may increase use of vomiting, laxatives or diuretics as a means to losing weight.
2. The media plays a heavy part in the 'body beautiful' obsession within society, using size zero and now even completely computer generated images, very rarely reflecting the diversity within our society.
3. This body elitism is present in all of society, but especially on the LGBT scene, where many staff are employed to reinforce this body image and advertising for LGBT events and club nights are regularly dominated by this elitism.
4. In some cases the effects of body elitism can lead to severe mental ill health in individuals and our wider community.
5. We've fought so hard to have LGBT spaces in the first place, these must be inclusive, accepting and inviting safe havens. In order to achieve this, we need to remove the elitist body images we are subjected to and replace them with ones that reflect the genuine diversity of our community.

**Conference resolves:**

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

**LGBT Asylum and International Students Rights****Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To work with Amnesty International to find common goals and campaigns to improve and extend the work of the Love Without Borders Campaign.

2. To lobby the government to improve the system by which people can claim asylum.
  3. Actively oppose any Ministry being held by the DUP that includes the equality and LGBT rights agenda in NI.
- 

## War Kills Equality – Liberation not Occupation

### **Conference believes**

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

### **Conference Further Believes**

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

### **Conference Resolves**

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

## Donation not Discrimination Continues

### **Conference Believes:**

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

### **Conference further believes:**

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

### **Conference Resolves**

1. That NUS LGBT continue 'Donation not Discrimination' with a view of changing the deferral period from one



- based on sexuality to that on sexual practice or the risk of that practice.
2. The NUS LGBT should write a letter to the Scottish Government urging them to lead the United Kingdom in implementing a fair deferral period based on scientific research and the risk of infection.
  3. That NUS LGBT should focus resources on working with NUS-USI LGBT to fight against the discriminatory blood ban that is still imposed on men who sleep with men.
- 

## Sterilisation of Trans people

### **Conference Believes:**

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

### **Conference Further Believes**

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

### **Conference Resolves**

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

## LGBT rights in Turkey

### **Conference believes:**

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

### **Conference further believes:**

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

### **Conference resolves:**

1. NUS LGBT should raise awareness of the issues for British Turks and lobby the relevant governmental parties to work towards change in Turkish culture and society.

2. NUS LGBT should support the UK TKRA in the work they do to support and represent LGBT Turks, Kurds and Turkish Cypriots in the United Kingdom with regards to the treatment of LGBT people in Turkey.
  3. NUS LGBT should work towards providing assistance for British Turks who suffer as a result of their LGBT status.
- 

You can't fix what's not broken

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

308 Dress and Dress Codes

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. In recent times, a woman wearing a hijab was told that she couldn't be a lesbian because of the headscarf, a vintage suit-wearing gay student regularly is ostracised because of his clothing and a made-up man who did

not fit within the skinny-fit world told he was “clearly not gay and that [the make-up] is offensive” by a drag queen!

2. Often LGBT people’s dress decisions have prevented them from entering so-called LGBT nights or clubs, with women being told that “your hair is too long” (i.e. you’re straight you cannot be lesbian), fat men because of their size being prevented entering told “sorry mate, its ‘members only’” only to brandish the chaser-partner, with then doorMAN then saying the club is full.
3. Do not think that students’ unions are free from such discrimination! We know that Flirt!, a sexist cis-normal entertainment sold by NUSSL is mainstreaming what men and women should do at an SU club night.

**Conference Resolves:**

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

**Strong and Active Unions**

An LGBT representative in every union

**Conference believes:**

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

**Conference resolves:**

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

Gender-Neutral Toilets and Sports Facilities

**Conference believes:**

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

**Conference further believes:**

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

**Conference resolves::**

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

Improving connections between LGBT Activists and other LGBT organisations

**Conference Believes**

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

**Conference Further Believes**

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

**Conference Resolves**

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

Supporting LGBT societies growth and development

**Conference believes:**

1. One of the factors that make NUS LGBT so successful is the strength of the LGBT societies on campuses across the UK.
2. LGBT societies have a fundamental roll to play in improving LGBTQ students' experiences while at college and university.
3. Many colleges do not have LGBT societies.
4. NUS LGBT using its Activist Training Days (ATDs) to engage and educate it's members in fighting for LGBT Liberation

5. That NUS LGBT ATDs have been widely successful in training up activists with a large number of students attending.
6. That all students should be able to leave NUS LGBT ATDs feeling empowered and like they've learnt valuable skills.

**Conference further believes:**

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

**Conference resolves:**

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

Pride is for EVERYONE

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

## Encouraging women's representation

### Conference Believes:

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

### Conference Resolves:

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

## Tackling LGBT phobia in sport during and after the Olympics

Submitted by: NUS LGBT Committee

Speech for: NUS LGBT Committee

Speech against: **free**

Summation: (proposer of last successful amendment)

### Conference Believes

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

### Conference Further Believes:

1. Whilst the perpetrators may think it funny and a good laugh to chide someone with homophobic taunts or

gestures, this bullying reduces even the most strong of persons to depression.

#### **Conference Resolves**

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

#### **100 Rules Revision**

Bye to Gay Men's Caucus

#### **Conference Believes:**

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

#### **Conference Further Believes:**

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

#### **Conference Resolves**

1. To remove a 'Gay Men's Caucus' from the NUS LGBT Constitution.
- 

Increasing involvement, increasing capacity

#### **Conference believes**

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

#### **Conference further believes**

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

#### **Conference resolves**

1. To create a new level of non political leadership involvement in the campaign, to increase opportunity of involvement and capacity of NUS LGBT.
2. That this should take the form of 'working groups' on specific areas, membership of which including NUS LGBT committee members and activists from different institutions.
3. For NUS LGBT committee and/or the NUS LGBT Officers to be able to create a working group on a particular topic as needed.

4. That working groups should be organised via online means wherever possible in order not to create additional cost to NUS LGBT which the campaign cannot afford.
  5. For committee to decide a process of application to be used to order to decide student members for the working groups.
  6. The work of working groups should be practical and supportive and not stray into representation or political leadership.
  7. To look at groups such as IGLYO (International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Youth and Student Organisation) to see how working groups operate in their originations.
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## Conference Capacity

### **Conference Believes:**

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

### **Conference Further Believes:**

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

### **Conference Resolves**

1. To challenge the conferencing budget allocated the liberation campaigns from a perspective of increased involvement.
2. To undergo a review to the current delegate entitlement and conference structure where the cost to unions and democratic participation will be at the heart of review.
3. To make this a priority to ensure new options (at least two plus the status quo) are given to conference 2013 to discuss.
4. To mandate the new committee to form a conference-funding sub-committee led by one of the LGBT officers



5. The sub-committee should be formed at the first committee meeting of the year
  6. The remit of this sub-committee should be to explore sponsorship options and to report back with recommendations and ideas to the national committee, preferably before Christmas.
  7. When undergoing these reviews, to consider how to increase representation of international students.
- 

For the Active Inclusion of Asexuals

**Conference believes:**

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

**Conference further believes:**

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

**Conference resolves:**

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

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

1. For the avoidance of doubt, it would be beneficial for the Standing Orders to explicitly state who may attend the caucuses that are required to be held at Conference.

2. In some circumstances, the existing Representative for a certain group of the membership may no longer self-define into that group or be a part of that group. However, they should still be able to attend the respective Caucus the following year for accountability purposes.

#### **Conference Resolves:**

1. To add the following to the Standing Orders:
    - a. Women's Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as women and/or the existing Women's Place Representatives.
    - b. Bisexual Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as bi and/or the existing Bisexual Representative.
    - c. Black Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as Black and/or the existing Black Students' Representative.
    - d. Further Education Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who are in Further Education or who have been in Further Education in the same academic year and / or have been FE representatives.
    - e. Disabled Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as disabled and/or the existing Disabled Students' Representative.
  2. To allow Steering to update the Standing Orders as necessary, and using the same pattern as above, if any other caucuses are required by Conference.
  3. Change Conference Resolves C) from "Black Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as Black and/or the existing Black Students' Representative" to Black Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as non-white and/or the existing Black Students' Representative.
- 

Living on the edge shouldn't exclude us from Conference

#### **Conference believes**

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

#### **Conference further believes**

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

#### **Conference resolves**

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

The influence of committee on voting

#### **Conference believes:**

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

**Conference further believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

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

**Empowering Caucuses, a new procedural motion****Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves**

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

## Priority Ballot

**Conference Believes:**

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

**Conference Further Believes:**

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

**Conference Resolves:**

1. To change

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

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

To

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

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