

# annual conference documents



## Final Motions

**CD17**

31 March –  
2 April 2009

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national union of students

**INTRODUCTION**

This document details all of the motions and amendments to be debated at Annual Conference 2009. They are divided into nine zones and includes emergency motions. Motions and Amendments that are passed by Annual Conference become the policy of NUS for the coming year.

**At conference**

Before the start of debate on a motion, the steering committee moves the adoption of the order and inter-relationship of amendments decided at the drafting commission meeting. A simple majority of conference is required to approve this. Please see the order paper and listen to announcements from steering committee for the exact order in which zones and motions will be discussed

**LIST OF MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS :****ZONE MEMBERSHIP ZONE**

101 New Affiliates

**ZONE RULES REVISION COMMITTEE**

201 Schedules to the New Constitution  
 201a NUS Democracy  
 201b Tenure of Democratic Procedures Committee Members  
 201c Tenure of Democratic Procedures Committee Members II  
 201d Full Time International Students' Officer

202 Democratic Regulations  
 203 NUS Wales  
 204 Card  
 205 Vote  
 206 Zones  
 207 Amendments to Constitutional Schedules

**ZONE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

401 Value for Money for NUS = Better Students' Unions  
 402 Ethical Banking for NUS

**ZONE STRONG & ACTIVE UNIONS**

501 Campaigning for Change: The Activist Academy  
 501a Support Student Activism  
 501b Campaigning for Change: The Activist Academy

502 Greening Students' Unions  
 502a Greening Students' Unions – Ultra Vires  
 502b Sustainable Finances  
 502c Ethical Investment

503 The Future is in Our Hands? We'll Have Representation Then!  
 503a Dual Membership: HE in FE

504 NUS Arts Representation and Support for Small and Specialists Students' Unions  
 505 Students Activities Development  
 505a Open University Access to NUS HE Unions Sports Clubs and Societies  
 505b Student Activities Development Volunteering Opportunities and Student Media

506 Initiations: To Ban or Not to Ban  
 506a Accessible Activities

507 Safe Space is a Right Not Just a Privilege  
 507a Impact on Equality Assessment

508 Preserving Autonomy of Students' Unions and Societies  
 508a Religion and Students' Unions – UCCF and Equal Opportunities  
 508b Racism in Education

509 Commercial Services Decline  
 510 Ethical NUSSL: Not Abandoning Our Ideals  
 510a Equality Within NUS Extra, Boycott McDiscount

511 Funding for a Training and Representation Service in England  
 512 Recognising Talent, Support Development

**ZONE EDUCATION**

601 Supporting Students in the Recession  
 602 CALL: Campaign Alliance for Lifelong Learning

- 603 ULN. Got Your Number!
- 604 Postgraduate Study
- 605 Arts Education funding and Hidden Course Costs
- 606 Stop Ripping Off Those on ALG and EMA
  
- 607 The Student Experience
- 607a Learner Voice, A Valid Voice?
- 607b IAG
- 607c Enhancing Feedback
- 607d Healthcare Amendment
- 607e Placement Students
- 607f Fair Academic Provision for All
- 607g Course Reps
- 607h E-Learning
- 607i Degree Classification
  
- 608 Bin the Broke and Broken Funding System
- 608a For a Free Education
- 608b Radical Action
- 608c Save Our Universities – Save London Met
- 608d A Fair Deal For Part Time Students
  
- 609 Greasy S E's and Mc "A" Levels are an Attack on All Students
- 609a Greasy S E's and Mc "A" Levels are an Attack on All Students
  
- 610 Support of Franchise and Collaborative Venture Students

#### **ZONE WELFARE AND STUDENTS' RIGHTS**

- 701 Student Employment
- 701a Students at Work
- 701b National Minimum Wage
- 701c Students' Rights at Work – The Revenge
- 701d A Living Wage – Low Pay, No Way
  
- 702 Student Housing, It's Our NeighbOURhood Too!
- 702a For Goodness Sake Stop Hating Students
- 702b Student Cooperative Housing
  
- 703 Responsible Drinking is More than Just a Poster
- 703a 1 Tequila, 2 Tequila, 3 Tequila, Floor
- 703b Responsible Drinking
  
- 704 No to Stop and Search
- 705 Access for All Students
  
- 706 Racism in Education
- 706a Stop the BNP – On the Streets and at the Ballot Box
- 706b NUS Must Confront Racism
  
- 707 Changes to the Benefits System
- 708 "Miss University" Beauty Pageants
- 709 Defend Our Right to Choose
- 710 TV Licensing in Halls of Residence and TVL Advertising
- 711 Scholarest – Good Value for Money?

#### **ZONE SOCIETY & CITIZENSHIP**

- 801 Operation Student Vote
- 801a Let's Put the Power Back into the Hands of Young People
- 801b Beat the BNP
  
- 802 Students Want to Go Green
- 803 Imposing HE in Iraq
- 803a Disaffiliate from Stop the War Coalition

- 803b Afghanistan and Spread of War
  
- 804 Fight ID Cards for International Students
- 804a Campaign Against Immigration Changes for International Students
- 804b Opposing ID Cards for Foreign Nationals (II)
- 805 Our House in the Middle of Our Street
- 806 Campaigning Against Mosquito Boxes
- 807 Ethical Investments in Universities and Colleges
- 807a Make Our Colleges Fair Trade
- 807b Ethical Labelling
  
- 808 Global Solidarity with Students
- 808a Solidarity with Gaza
- 808b Defend Palestinians' Right to Education
  
- 809 Justice for Colombia
- 810 Action for Southern Africa – A Focus on Swaziland Students

**ZONE      EMERGENCY MOTIONS**

- 901 Fair Access for Delegates with Enablers
  - 902 Fruit of the Loom
  - 903 Save Students Money Now!! It Must Be Finally Time to SAY NO TO 0870!
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**Zone**                      **Membership**

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**Motion:**                      **101**  
**Heading:**                    **New Affiliates**

The following students' unions are presented to annual conference for approval as new members of NUS:

- Banff & Buchan College Students' Association
- Elmwood College Students' Union
- West Lothian College Students' Union
- Suffolk New College Students' Union
- London School of Business and Finance Students' Union
- St Francis Xavier Students' Union
- Lufton College of Further Education Students' Union
- North Bristol Post 16 Students' Union
- Impact International College Students' Union
- Derwen College Students' Union



3. The Board may reduce any subscription, may accept late payment or payment by instalments. The hardship policy for this should be set down by the Board, be published on the NUS Website and take the level of the minimum fee into consideration and where appropriate assist with hardship.

### Constituent Members and Payments

4. Constituent Members shall pay an annual affiliation/subscription fee according to detailed regulations proposed by the Board and agreed by Annual National Conference as part of the Board Report each year
5. The proposed regulations from the Board must be drafted according to the following broad principles:
  - 5.1. Transparency
  - 5.2. Ability of unions to pay
  - 5.3. Fairness and comparisons of "like with like"
  - 5.4. Flexibility for unions experiencing hardship
  - 5.5. The system must be regularly reviewed
6. The Board will consult widely each year on the detail of how to implement these principles in regulations
7. The Board will supply in good time the detail of their proposals to the National Executive Council such that the impact of any changes can be built into any financial deliberations of the National Executive Council
8. The Board will not, unless instructed by the previous Annual National Conference, deliberately seek to increase the overall revenue into NUS from member unions by anything other than inflation
9. The regulations will come into effect at the end of the relevant Annual National Conference. In the event that the relevant section of the Board report is not agreed by Annual National Conference, the system in use in the previous financial year will be the one applied for the year ahead
10. There shall be a minimum subscription and a maximum subscription. The Board may amend the maximum and minimum by putting amendments to its report to Annual National Conference and National Conference accepting that part of the report.
11. In the first year of affiliation new Constituent Members shall be required to pay in subscription that proportion of the Annual Subscription set out below:
  - 11.1. Date of Application Proportion Payable
  - 11.2. 1st August-31st November Full Annual Subscription
  - 11.3. 1st December-31st February Two-thirds Annual Subscription
  - 11.4. 1st March-31st July One-third Annual Subscription
12. The Board will also be empowered to levy charges for any events, services or facilities provided by the National Union

### NUS RULES | LIBERATION CAMPAIGNS RULES

#### Conference

1. Each Liberation Campaign will hold an Annual Conference, which will elect the Campaign's Officer(s) and Committee.
2. Other ordinary meetings of the Campaign Conferences may be convened in accordance with each Campaign's Standing Orders, provided that a sufficient budget has been agreed by National Conference.
3. Each Liberation Conference will discuss matters of concern to the Liberation Campaign.
4. The Report and Plan of the Liberation Committee will be discussed at the Liberation Campaign Conference.
5. The Liberation Campaign Conference will be restricted to the classes of person as defined for each campaign.
6. Only persons allowed to attend the conference will be eligible for election as delegates to the Conference.
7. The Liberation Campaign Conferences will be governed by such Standing Orders as they themselves decide.
8. The Delegation Entitlement to each conference will be agreed by the relevant conference in setting the standing orders, save that must be affordable and within the budget approved by National Conference.

#### Committee

9. The election of Campaign Officer and the Campaign Committee will be conducted in a manner approved by the Chief Returning Officer.
10. The membership structure of the committee shall be approved by the relevant conference in the campaign standing orders.
11. Any person allowed to attend the conference will be eligible for election to the post of Liberation Campaign Officer and for the Committee, if at close of nominations that person is an individual student member of the National Union.
12. The Committee will convene an Extraordinary Liberation Campaign Conference, to discuss a motion of 'no confidence' in the Liberation Campaign Officer(s) on receipt of a request in writing from 25 names Constituent Members.
13. The Campaign Committee will convene the Extraordinary Campaign Conference within seven weeks after receipt of the request, and not less than two weeks after the day on which the notice of the Extraordinary Campaign Conference would in the normal course of post be received by Constituent Members.

14. Delegates' entitlement and eligibility will be as for the Annual Campaign Conference, except that delegates will not be required to have been elected by cross-campus ballot.
15. No business other than the motion of 'no confidence' in the Campaigns Officer will be discussed at an Extraordinary Campaign Conference, and if such a motion is passed by a simple majority, the Campaign Officer(s) post will become vacant and will be filled by the casual vacancy procedures.

**NUS RULES | BOARD PROCEEDINGS**

1. Subject to the provisions of the Articles and these rules, the Trustees may regulate their proceedings as they think fit.

## Calling a meeting

2. Four Trustees may, and the Chief Executive at the request of four Trustees shall, call a meeting of the Trustees. Notice of every meeting of the Trustees stating business to be considered at such meeting shall be sent by post or by electronic communication to each Trustee at least seven clear days before such meeting unless urgent circumstances require shorter notice, but the proceedings of any meeting shall not be invalidated by any minor irregularity in respect of such notice or by reason of any business being considered which is not specified in such general particulars. The Trustees shall hold a minimum of four meetings in each calendar year.

## Chair

3. The National President shall be the Chair of the Trustees unless another Officer Trustee is appointed as chair by the National President. The Trustees may at any time remove her from the office of chair. The Trustees may appoint a Trustee to be Vice-Chair of the Trustees and may at any time remove her from office. The role of the Vice-Chair will be to support the Chair.
4. Unless she is unwilling to do so, the Chair shall preside at every meeting of Trustees at which she is present. If there is no Trustee holding that office, or if the Trustee holding it is unwilling to preside or is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the Trustees present may appoint one of their number to be chair of the meeting.

## Procedure

5. Questions arising at a meeting of the Board shall be decided by a majority of votes.
6. The quorum for the transaction of the business of the Trustees shall be seven (such quorum must include at least three Officer Trustees). Guests or observers can attend meetings of the Trustees at the discretion of the Chair.
7. The continuing Trustees or a sole continuing Trustee may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number. However, if and so long as the number of Trustees is less than the number fixed as a quorum, the Trustees may take steps to increase the number of Trustees so that there is a quorum.
8. All acts done by a meeting of Trustees, or of a committee of Trustees, or by a person acting in good faith as a Trustee shall, even if afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any Trustee (excluding the election and selection process) or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a Trustee and had been entitled to vote.
9. The Trustees shall invite the Chief Executive of the National Union to attend and speak at meetings of the Board of Trustees. The Chief Executive shall not be entitled to vote or count in the quorum upon any business transacted at such meetings, and the Board shall have the power to require the Chief Executive to withdraw from any meeting.

## Written and email approval of resolutions

10. Save where a Trustee is not entitled to vote on the resolution due to a conflict or otherwise, a resolution in writing signed by all the Trustees (excluding any conflicted Trustee) entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Trustees or of a committee of Trustees shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of Trustees or (as the case may be) a committee of Trustees duly convened and held, provided the conditions set out below are complied with.
11. If the Trustees wish to validly pass a written resolution:
  - 11.1. all of the Trustees (save any that are conflicted) must signify their approval of the written resolution;
  - 11.2. a written resolution may consist of several instruments in like form each signed by one or more Trustees and/or approval from a Trustee sent by electronic means; and
  - 11.3. the date of a written resolution shall be the date on which the last Trustee signifies their approval.
12. A Trustees' resolution which is approved by email shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Trustees, provided the following conditions are complied with:

- 12.1. such a resolution must be approved by email by all of the Trustees, except for any Trustee who would not have been entitled to vote upon the resolution if it had been proposed at a meeting at which she was present (whether as a result of a conflict of interest or otherwise);
- 12.2. if approval of a resolution is not received within twenty four hours from all of the Trustees, it must be received from at least as many Trustees as would have been needed to form a quorum if the resolution had been put to a meeting;
- 12.3. notice of all proposed resolutions must be given to all of the Trustees;
- 12.4. approval from each Trustee entitled to give her or her approval must be received by such person as all the Trustees shall have nominated in advance for that purpose ("the Recipient"), which person may, for the avoidance of doubt, be one of the Trustees;
- 12.5. approval from a Trustee must be sent from an email address previously notified by that Trustee by post, fax or in person to the Chief Executive as intended for use by that Trustee for the purpose of sending such email confirmations;
- 12.6. following receipt of a response on any resolution from each of the Trustees entitled to give her approval, the Recipient shall circulate a further email to all of the Trustees confirming whether the resolution has been formally approved by the Trustees in accordance with the terms of this rule; and
- 12.7. the date of a resolution shall be the date of the email from the Recipient confirming formal approval.

#### Virtual Meetings

13. A meeting may be held by telephone or by televisual or other electronic or virtual means agreed by resolution of the Trustees in which all participants may communicate simultaneously with all other participants.

**Student Trustees**

14. In order to ensure continuity, the six Student Trustees shall be elected into two blocks of three to serve two years each in odd and even years respectively

**NUS RULES | AREAS**

1.NUS will recognise voluntary associations of students' unions defined geographically as "NUS Area Organisations". Such recognition will confer upon these organisations any such benefits and responsibilities as from time to time the board sees fit, acting under the guidance of the National Executive Council.

**Recognition**

2.The National Executive Council shall set whatever recognition criteria it sees fit, save that:

2.1.Area Organisations shall exist to further the work of the National Union within their geographical boundaries and must be explicit in this aim in their activities and Governing Document(s)

2.2. Area Organisations' constitutions must include the following:

2.2.1.statement of the aims and objects of the Area. This shall include the making and the implementation of policy which relates to local campaigning and other issues.

2.2.2. Full rights of membership for all Constituent Members within the geographical boundaries.

2.3.There shall be an annual Area Conference composed of delegates and observers from Constituent Members within the geographical boundaries of the Area Organisation. The Annual Conference shall be the policy making body of the Area Organisation and shall elect all officers of the Area Organisation except Liberation Officers. Areas should attempt to hold an annual Women's Conference which shall elect the Area Women's Officer

2.4.The Area Council shall be responsible for directing the campaigning and development work of the Area.

2.5.There shall be an Area Executive composed of officers elected by the Annual Area Conference or by Constituent Members. The Area Executive must include:

2.5.1. An Area Convenor

2.5.2. An Area FE Officer

2.5.3. An Area Women's Officer

2.5.4. Other officers as specified in the Area Constitution.

2.6.The Area Executive shall be responsible for the administration of the Area Organisation. Members of the Executive shall be accountable to the Area Conference and the Area Council. This Executive shall be jointly and collectively responsible for the proper control and supervision of all Area funds.

2.7.Only the Area Conference may remove an elected officer, except that Liberation Officers can only be removed by the appropriate caucus that elected them.

2.8.Any elected officers who are not registered students or sabbatical officers of a Constituent Member shall be entitled to Individual Membership of the National Union.

**Benefits**

3.The benefits afforded to Area Organisations may from time to time include:

3.1. Use of the name "NUS Area"

3.2. Support and assistance in the pursuance of their aims (both financial and non financial)

4.Any such benefits may be removed or revoked by the Board for reason of non compliance with a particular regulation as it sees fit

**NUS Rules | Nominations Committee**

1.The Nominations Committee shall regulate and conduct its business as it sees fit, save that:

2.It will conduct annually a skills, knowledge and diversity audit highlighting key areas for recruitment and will publish this to Constituent Members by October 1<sup>st</sup> each year

3.It shall then invite applications and test them against the stated needs finalising a shortlist of candidates of which some will be formally recommended to National Conference

4. An appropriately edited Curriculum Vitae of the those shortlisted will be distributed to delegates

5.Each candidate will be voted on in turn and will require a simple majority by National Conference to be approved

6.In the event that National Conference rejects any of the proposed candidates the Nominations Committee will meet to determine who should be presented from the shortlist as alternatives later on during Conference

**NUS RULES | NUS Scotland**

The rules of the National Union of Students Scotland as defined in the Rules of NUS UK

**1.NAME AND STATUS**

The name of the region shall be the National Union of Students Scotland subtitled "The Scottish Union of Students". It shall be a politically autonomous special region of NUS UK.

**2.AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- a)To represent its members in all matters affecting their interests.
- b)To promote and maintain the educational, social and general interests of its members, especially and particularly in matters pertaining to the Scottish Parliament, and also in all other issues specific to Scotland.
- c)To provide a means of communications between its members and organisations which operate in Scotland.
- d)To act as a forum for discussion for the various sectors of its membership, meeting together or separately.
- e)To act as a channel of communication between its members and the National Bodies and the headquarters of NUS UK.
- f)To develop the commercial and other services of the National Union within Scotland.

**3.POWERS AND LIMITATIONS**

- a)NUS Scotland shall be an integral part of the National Union and shall not have a status independent of nor separate from the National Union.
- b)NUS Scotland shall have the right to formulate policy on all matters even where that policy conflicts with the policies of the National Union.
- c)Where the policy of NUS Scotland is exclusive to Constituent Members in Scotland, that policy shall be binding on the Scottish Executive providing that it falls within the general aims of objects of the National Union and subject always to the right of National Conference to amend or revoke it.
- d)All assets of NUS Scotland shall be vested in the National Union.

**4.DEFINITIONS**

- a)The following phrases shall have the following meaning wherever they appear in this Rules and Regulations:
  - (i) 'NUS Scotland' shall mean the 'National Union of Students Scotland'.
  - (ii) 'National Union' shall mean the 'National Union of Students of the United Kingdom'.
  - (iii) 'National National Conference shall mean the 'National Conference of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom'.
  - (iv) 'Scottish Executive' shall mean the 'Executive Committee of the National Union of Students Scotland'.
  - (v) 'National Executive' shall mean the 'Executive Committee of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom'.
  - (vi) 'Constituent Member' shall mean a representative organisation of a post-sixteen educational establishment as outlined in the relevant clauses of the constitution of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom.
- b)Where a word or phrase in this rules is not explained its definition shall be the same as that of the National Union.

**5.MEMBERSHIP**

- a)All Constituent Members of the National Union within Scotland shall be members of NUS Scotland.
- b)Student organisations which are not Constituent Members may be afforded non-voting observer status within NUS Scotland upon application to the Scottish Executive and subsequent ratification at the beginning of Scottish Conference/Council.

**6.MEETINGS OF NUS SCOTLAND**

There shall be at least the following meetings of NUS Scotland each year:

- a) Scottish Conference
- b) Scottish Council

**7.SCOTTISH CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL**

- a)A Scottish Conference or Council shall be called by the President of NUS Scotland at the request of
  - (i) Scottish Conference
  - (ii) Scottish Council
  - (iii)The Scottish Executive
  - (iv)The National Executive
  - (v)The sovereign bodies of at least 10 CMs within Scotland, 5 of which must be from the FE sector.
- b)Persons attending Scottish Conference or Council shall be categorised as follows:
  - (i)Delegates who shall have full speaking and voting rights

Constituent members shall be entitled to appoint delegates to Scottish Conference and Council on the basis of the number of full time equivalent students (fte students as defined in the NUS Constitution) for whom an affiliation fee is paid to the National Union according to the following table:

Between 1 and 1000 fte students	1 delegate
Between 1001 and 3000 fte students	2 delegates
Between 3001 and 5000 fte students	3 delegates
From 5001 to 7000 fte students	4 delegates
From 7001 and above fte students	5 delegates

Delegates must be elected according to the relevant provisions of the Rules of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom.

(ii) Observers who shall have full speaking rights but no voting rights

Constituent members shall be entitled to one observer to Scottish Conference and Council.

Recognised Area organisations shall be entitled to send an observer to Scottish Conference and Scottish Council.

(iii) Members of the Scottish Steering Committee

Members of Scottish Steering Committee shall have speaking rights on matters relating to their responsibilities, motions, elections, the Rules and Regulations but shall have no voting rights.

(iv) Visitors

Visitors shall be present only with the permission of the Scottish Executive or Scottish Conference or Council and shall have no voting rights. Speaking permission may be granted by Scottish Conference or Council.

c) If a dispute arises as to the right of a person to attend Scottish Conference or Council it shall be referred to the Scottish Steering Committee whose decision shall be final subject to revocation by the Scottish Conference or Council.

d) Under no circumstances shall any person in categories b) (i), (ii) or (iii) be excluded from a meeting of NUS Scotland.

e) No session of Scottish Conference or Council, with the exception of workshops and Sectoral meetings, shall proceed to business unless fifteen constituent members are represented.

f) Scottish Conference and Council shall be regulated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland or by reference to the National Constitution.

g) Scottish Conference shall be the political governing body of NUS Scotland and shall have the following powers:

(i) To pass resolutions on all matters and such resolutions shall be binding on the Scottish Executive.

(ii) To determine policy of NUS Scotland by ratifying policy decisions taken at the Scottish Women's Conference.

(iii) To amend the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland.

(iv) To receive reports or ask questions of the Scottish Executive either collectively or individually.

(v) To elect the Scottish Executive and the Scottish Steering Committee.

h) Scottish Council shall have the same powers as outlined in g(i) and (iv) above, and shall also have the power to fill casual vacancies on the Scottish Executive or Scottish Steering Committee.

## 8. THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a) There shall be a Scottish Executive Committee who shall comprise as full members:

i) The Scottish President who shall be a full time officer of the National Union, a full member of the National Executive ex officio and shall be the Principal executive officer of the National Union of Students Scotland.

ii) The Depute President who shall be a full time officer of the National Union and who shall act for the Scottish President in his/her absence under the direction of the Scottish President.

iii) The NUS Scotland Women's Officer who shall be a full time officer of the National Union.

iv) The NUS Scotland Lesbian Gay, Bisexual and Trans Officer.

v) The NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer

vi) The Mature Students Officer.

vii) Six Executive Officers

viii) Convenors of recognised NUS Areas in Scotland.

b) i) New members of the Scottish Executive elected at Scottish Conference shall become non-voting members immediately after the Conference and shall be designated by the word 'elect' after their title, until their term of office commences when they shall become full members.

ii) The new Women's Officer, LGBT Officer, Disabled Students' Officer and Mature Students' Officer shall become non-voting members of the Scottish Executive immediately after the respective Conferences at which they are elected and shall be designated by the word 'elect' after their titles, until their terms of office commence, when they shall become full members.

c) i) The Scottish President shall be responsible for the overall direction of the work of the Scottish Executive, subject to f) below, and call at least six meetings of the Scottish Executive per year.

ii) The Scottish Executive may also invite individuals to attend its meetings for specific purposes.

iii) The quorum for the meetings of the Scottish Executive shall be half the actual voting membership plus one.

iv) Meetings of the Scottish Executive Committee may also be called on receipt of written request by half of the actual voting members of the Scottish Executive plus one. The President shall then call a meeting of the Scottish Executive within three weeks of the receipt of such a requisition.

v) The Scottish Executive shall ensure that proper records and minutes of its meetings and all other meetings within NUS Scotland are maintained and filed at the headquarters of NUS Scotland.

vi) The expenses of full members of the Scottish Executive shall be met out of the funds of NUS Scotland.

- vii) Any members of the Scottish Executive who fails to attend three consecutive meetings without submitting apologies shall be deemed to have resigned. Such resignations shall come into effect immediately.
- d) The Scottish Executive shall have the following powers:
- i) To effect the policy of NUS Scotland as determined by Scottish Conference and Council.
  - ii) To execute business remitted to it by Scottish Conference and Council.
  - iii) To institute business remitted to it by Scottish Conference and Council.
  - iv) To call meetings of Scottish Conference, Scottish Council, or an Extraordinary Scottish Conference or Scottish Women's Conference or Scottish Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Conference or Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - v) To fill by co-option any vacancy caused by the resignation of any of its members after Scottish Conference until a by-election is held at Scottish Council or until Scottish Conference in cases where a vacancy arises after the date for notice of any elections to be held at Scottish Council.
  - vi) To take action on immediate issues of concern, provided that such action shall be reported to the next Scottish Conference or Council to be ratified or otherwise by that body.
  - vii) To appoint such sub-committees as it may deem necessary.
- e) The Scottish Executive shall ensure that the National Executive, Area Councils and Constituent Members are kept fully informed of its activities.
- f) The Scottish Executive shall be accountable to Scottish Conference and Council, with the exception of the Women's Officer, LGBT Officer and Disabled Students' Officer, who shall be accountable to their respective campaign conferences.
- g) The term of office of the Scottish Executive shall be from 1st June following the Conference at which they were elected until 31st May in the following year, with the exception of the full time officers whose term of office shall run until 30th June in the following year. Where a full time officer is unable to take up office on 1st June due to other commitments s/he will still be deemed to hold office as a full member of the Scottish Executive but shall act unpaid until 30th June. During any period following the Conference at which they were elected and the 1st June following, members elect shall have non-voting status. For the purpose of clarity conference in this context refers to Scottish Conference, Scottish Women's Conference, Scottish Lesbian Gay, Bisexual and Trans Conference and Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
- h) Each member of the Scottish Executive shall be deemed to be a full-time member of the National Union for the period of his/her office.
- i) A special meeting of the Scottish Executive may be called during the summer months (1 June to 30 September) to discuss a specified matter, if requested by 5 CMs or more. The SEC shall invite a representative from each CM to this meeting.
- j) A resolution in writing signed or approved by letter, fax or email by a majority of the Scottish Executive entitled at the time to vote in a meeting of the Scottish Executive shall for all purposes be as effective as if such a resolution had been carried at a meeting of the Scottish Executive Committee.

## 9. THE SCOTTISH STEERING COMMITTEE

- a) There shall be a Scottish Steering Committee who shall comprise:
- i) Four members elected by Scottish Conference.
  - ii) One member of the Scottish Executive who shall act as a liaison between the two bodies and who shall have no voting rights.
- b) The Scottish Steering Committee, which has had the responsibilities of the NUS UK Democratic Procedures Committee and the NUS UK Chief Returning Officer devolved to it according to the relevant provision in the NUS UK Constitution, shall have the following status and duties:
- i) No member of the Scottish Steering Committee shall serve in any other capacity at Scottish Conference or Council.
  - ii) The duties of the Scottish Steering Committee shall be as specified in the Regulations.
  - iii) The Scottish Steering Committee may propose motions to Scottish Conference to amend the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland.
  - iv) The Scottish Steering Committee shall be the Scottish Elections Committee and shall be responsible for all matters relating to elections at Scottish Conference and Council.
  - v) The Scottish Steering Committee shall be the Credentials Committee and shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of that Committee as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
- c) The full members of the Scottish Steering Committee shall serve for one year from the end of the Scottish Conference at which they are elected until the end of the next Scottish Conference.
- d) A member of Scottish Steering Committee shall be appointed to the Steering Committee of the Scottish Women's, LGBT and Disabled Students' Campaigns. These appointees must meet the criteria for membership of the relevant committee. In the event of there not being an eligible member of the Scottish Steering Committee for any of these appointments, a liaison shall be appointed from the Scottish Steering Committee subject to the provisions of the relevant clauses of the rules for that campaign.
- e) The Scottish Steering Committee shall meet as and when it deems fit.
- f) The expenses of members of the Scottish Steering Committee shall be met from the funds of NUS Scotland.

## 10. AREAS

- a) Where an Area in Scotland is formally constituted and recognised, according to the relevant section of the NUS UK Rules, the Convenor of that Area shall serve as a full member of the Scottish Executive.
- b) No member of the Scottish Executive or National Executive may attend a meeting of an Area organisation as a representative of a Constituent Member, or hold simultaneously a post of Area Convenor.

## 11. ELECTIONS

- a) The Scottish President and Depute President shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
- i) The Scottish President and Depute President shall be elected individually by Alternative Vote at Scottish Conference.
  - ii) A person shall be eligible to stand for election as President or Depute President, if at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time student member of the National Union.
  - iii) Any person who has held the post of President on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to that post.
  - iv) Any person who has held the post of Depute President on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to that post.
  - v) Nominations for the posts of President and Depute President should be made by at least five full or part-time student members of the National Union in Scotland from five different Constituent Members.
  - vi) Nominations must be received by the Elections Committee no later than 5pm, three weeks and one day before the first day of Scottish Conference.
  - vii) The Elections Committee will copy and distribute to all constituent members a manifesto from each candidate for the position of President and Depute President. The manifesto must consist of no more than two pages of black ink on white paper, a printed copy of which must be received by the Elections Committee no later than 5.00 pm, three weeks and one day before the first day of Scottish Conference.
- b) Scottish Executive Officers shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
- i) The six Executive Officers shall be elected by single transferable vote at Scottish Conference
  - ii) In the Executive Officers' election, two places shall be reserved for students from the FE Sector, provided that such people stand. For the purposes of this clause re-open nominations shall be considered an FE candidate
  - iii) A person shall be eligible to stand for election as Executive Officer if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time student member of the National Union in Scotland.
  - iv) Any person who has held the post of Executive Officer on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to any of those posts.
  - v) Nominations for the post of Executive Officer shall be made by at least three full or part-time student members of the National Union in Scotland.
  - vi) Nominations must be received by the Elections Committee no later than 7 pm on the first day of Scottish Conference.
- c) The Mature Students Officer shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
- i) The election shall be by single transferable vote at the Mature Students Caucus at Scottish Conference.
  - ii) A person shall be eligible to stand for election as Mature Students Officer if, at the close of nominations s/he is a full or part-time mature student member of the National Union.
  - iii) Any person who has held the post of Mature Students Officer on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to the post.
  - iv) Nominations for election as Mature Student Officer should be made by at least two constituent members of NUS Scotland.
  - v) Nominations to be received by the Elections Committee no later than a time specified.
  - vi) In the event of a causal vacancy in the post, it may be filled by a Mature Student Caucus held during any meeting of Scottish Council.
  - vii) Once elected, the Mature Student Officer shall take post at the same time as all other members of NUS Scotland Executive Committee and hold it until the following Scottish Conference.
- d) The Scottish Steering Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
- i) The four members of Scottish Steering Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at Scottish Conference.
  - ii) A person shall be eligible to stand for election as a member of the Scottish Steering Committee if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part time student member of the National Union.
  - iii) A serving member of the Scottish Steering Committee shall be eligible to stand for re-election.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish Steering Committee should be made by at least two delegates to Scottish Conference.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Elections Committee no later than a time to be specified by them. When a member of the Scottish Steering Committee is standing for re-election, his/her nominations must be submitted to a retiring member of the Committee. When there are no retiring members of the Committee, the Elections Committee shall nominate a person to act as the Returning Officer for the election; subject to the approval of Scottish Conference, and that person shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Elections Committee for that election only.

e) Casual vacancies on the Scottish Executive, with the exception of the NUS Scotland Women's Officer/NUS Scotland LGBT Officer/Disabled Students' Officer or Scottish Steering Committee shall be filled in accordance with the following provisions:

- i) Casual vacancies arising for whatever reason after the end of Scottish Conference and before the closing date for notice of business for Scottish Council shall be filled by election at Scottish Council.
- ii) The procedure for such elections shall be the same for each appropriate post as that specified in the relevant sections of this Clause above.
- iii) A person elected to fill a casual vacancy on the Scottish Executive shall hold office until the last day of the following June.
- iv) A person elected to fill a casual vacancy on the Scottish Steering Committee shall hold office until the end of the following Scottish Conference.

f) A casual vacancy for Scottish Women's Officer/LGBT Officer/Disabled Students' Officer shall be filled at a Special Electoral Meeting convened according to the provisions governing the Scottish Women's/LGBT/Disabled Students' Conference as suitably amended by the Scottish Women's/LGBT/Disabled Students' Steering Committee.

g) Casual vacancies amongst the four full members of the Scottish Women's/LGBT/Disabled Students' Campaign Committee, arising for whatever reason, may be filled at the Special Electoral Meeting.

h) The business of any Special Electoral Meeting called for the purposes of e) and f) above shall be confined solely to the matter of elections.

i) The following provisions shall govern the conduct of all elections within NUS Scotland:

- i) If the appropriate Elections Committee is satisfied that a person's failure to comply with any election regulation is directly due to circumstances beyond that person's control, it may at its discretion exempt that person from that regulation. Any such exceptions shall be reported to the appropriate Conference or Council for its information.
- ii) When, at the closing time for nominations in any election, insufficient nominations have been received to fill the vacancies, the Elections Committee shall be empowered to extend the closing time.
- iii) A candidate may be nominated for any number of positions provided that all other regulations are met and provided that no person may hold more than one post simultaneously.
- iv) Any candidate in an election may appoint one counting agent who shall be entitled to attend the counting of votes. Such agents must conform with directions given by the appropriate Elections Committee. No other person shall be entitled to attend the counting of votes unless instructed or authorised by the appropriate Elections Committee.
- v) The result of an election shall be declared orally. The result sheet, which shall include a statement of the total votes credited to each candidate at the end of every count, shall be retained for inspection.
- vi) Where any matter relating to any election is not specified in the NUS Scotland Rules or Regulations, the appropriate Elections Committee shall decide, by reference in the first instance to the National Rules.

## 12. MOTIONS OF NO CONFIDENCE

a) Any member of the Scottish Executive, with the exception of the NUS Scotland Women's Officer/LGBT Officer/Disabled Students' Officer and Area Convenors, shall be bound to resign within three days of a motion of no confidence being passed against him/her by one of the following:

- i) Scottish Conference
- ii) Scottish Council
- iii) The Scottish Executive with the exception of the Area Convenors.

b) In the case of a i) and ii) any such motion must be submitted in accordance with the procedure for submitting motions for discussion at Scottish Conference or Council as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.

c) In the case of a) iii) any such motions must be tabled at least seven days in advance of the meeting at which it is due to be discussed. If passed, it shall take effect immediately but shall be subject to the right of either Scottish Conference or Council to revoke it.

d) The Scottish Women's/LGBT Officer/Disabled Students' Officer or any full member of the Scottish Women's/LGBT/Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall be bound to resign within three days of a motion of no confidence being passed against them by the Scottish Women's/LGBT/Disabled Students' Conference. Such a motion must be submitted in accordance with the procedure for submitting motions for discussion at Scottish Women's/LGBT/Disabled Students' Conference as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.

e) In all cases, a motion of no confidence shall require a two thirds majority of those present and voting to vote in favour in order to be passed.

f) In all cases the person against whom the motion is proposed shall be entitled to attend the meeting at which the motion is to be discussed.

## 13. NEW MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL UNION

a) The Scottish Conference/Council shall have the right to confer full temporary delegate status to new members of the National Union for the purpose of representation at NUS Scotland Conference and Council but the right is ultimately subject to the relevant membership approval mechanisms in the NUS UK Constitution

b)The decision to confer such status on new members of the National Union shall be subject to the agreement, by a simple majority, of delegates in attendance at the commencement of the Conference or Council.

#### 14.INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

- a)Interpretation of the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland shall rest with the Scottish Steering Committee.
- b)The Scottish President may rule on all matters of interpretation of the Rules and any such ruling shall only be subject to appeal to the National President.
- c)Whilst Scottish Conference or Council is in session, interpretation of the Regulations shall rest with the Chairperson of the meeting, subject to the right of the meeting to revoke an interpretation made by the Chairperson.

#### 15.AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES

- a)Any amendments to the Rules shall be submitted in writing by Constituent Members to the Scottish Steering Committee or its nominated agent at least six weeks before Scottish Conference or Council.
- b)The Scottish Steering Committee may propose amendments to the Rules.
- c)All amendments to the Rules shall require a two-thirds majority of those present and voting to vote in favour in order to be passed. Such amendment shall require ratification at the next meeting of conference by a two-thirds majority and such proposed ratifications shall be circulated by the Steering Committee with the motions for that Conference.
- d)All proposed ratifications shall be tabled for discussion during the first session of the first day of the Conference. Time shall be allocated for the debate of the ratifications which shall be debated and voted upon before the Conference discusses any further proposals to amend the rules.
- e)An amendment receiving such approval shall take effect from the end of the Scottish Conference or Council at which it was approved.
- f)Rules and Regulations amendments shall have priority over all other motions at Scottish Conference or Council except the first motion on the Priority Ballot.
- g)Rules and Regulations amendments shall not contribute towards the three policy motions which Constituent Members may submit in accordance with the Regulations.
- h)Constituent Members may submit a maximum of three Rules and Regulations amendments at any one time.

#### 16.SCOTTISH WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

There shall be at least the following meetings of NUS Scotland each year:

- a)Scottish Women's Conference

#### SCOTTISH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

- a)A Scottish Women's Conference shall be called by the Scottish Women's Officer at the request of
  - (i) The Scottish Women's Campaign Committee
  - (ii) The Scottish Executive
  - (iii) Scottish Women's Conference
- b)All persons attending the Scottish Women's Conference in whatever capacity shall be women and shall be categorised as follows:
  - (i)Delegates who shall have full speaking and voting rights  
Constituent Members shall be entitled to send the same number of delegates to Scottish Women's Conference as to a Scottish Conference. Delegates must be elected by according to the relevant provisions of the Rules of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom. The Scottish Women's Officer and full members of the Women's Campaign Committee shall be classified as delegates.
  - (ii)Observers with full speaking rights but no voting rights  
There shall be no limit on the number of observers that a Constituent Member may send to the Scottish Women's Conference. Scottish Area Council Women's Officers, Scottish Area Convenors who are women and women members of the Scottish Executive shall be classified as observers.
  - (iii)Members of Scottish Women's Steering Committee  
Members of Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall have speaking rights on matters relating to their responsibilities only but shall have no voting rights.
- c)If a dispute arises as to the right of a person to attend Scottish Women's Conference it shall be referred to the Scottish Women's Steering Committee whose decision shall be final subject only to revocation by the Scottish Women's Conference.
- d)No session of Scottish Women's Conference excluding workshops, shall proceed to business unless fifteen Constituent members are represented.
- e)Scottish Women's Conference shall be regulated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland or by reference to the National Rules.
- f)Scottish Women's Conference shall have the following powers:
  - i)To pass resolutions on matters of interest to women which shall be binding on the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee.
  - ii)To receive reports and ask questions of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee either collectively or individually.

- iii) To elect the NUS Scotland Women's Officer.
- iv) To elect four other full members of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee.
- v) To elect the Scottish Women's Steering Committee.

#### THE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

- a) There shall be a Scottish Women's Campaign Committee of women only which shall comprise:
  - i) The NUS Scotland Women's Officer who shall be full member with voting rights.
  - ii) Four other full members with voting rights elected at the Scottish Women's Conference.
  - iii) The Scottish Areas' Women's Officers, Area Convenors who are women, and women members of the NUS Scotland Executive, who shall be non-voting members of the Committee.
- b)
  - i) The NUS Scotland Women's Officer shall be responsible for convening meetings of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee.
  - ii) The quorum for the meetings will be at least one half plus one of the actual full members.
  - iii) Any full member of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings without submitting apologies shall be deemed to have resigned. Such resignations shall come into effect immediately.
- c) The Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall have the following powers:
  - i) To effect the policy determined by the Scottish Women's Conference.
  - ii) To fill any vacancy amongst the full members of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee, with the exception of the NUS Scotland Women's Officer, with a non-voting co-optee. The Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall ensure that notice of any vacancy to be filled by co-option is circulated to all Constituent Members in sufficient time to receive notification of proposed co-optees.
- d) The full members of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall be accountable to the Scottish Women's Conference.
- e) The full members of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall take office immediately after the Scottish Women's Conference at which they are elected and shall serve until the last day of June in the following year, save that the term of office of the Scottish Women's Officer shall be as that for the National Executive full-time officers.

#### THE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S STEERING COMMITTEE

- a) There shall be a Scottish Women's Steering Committee who shall comprise:
  - i) Two members elected at the Scottish Women's Conference.
  - ii) One woman member of the Scottish Steering Committee who shall act as liaison between the two bodies and who shall have full voting rights.
  - iii) In the absence of a woman member of the Scottish Steering Committee, the Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall comprise two full members only. A Liaison shall be appointed by the Scottish Steering Committee who shall attend meetings of the Scottish Women's Steering Committee by invitation only, shall have no voting rights and shall not be entitled to attend Scottish Women's Conference.
- iv) The NUS Scotland Women's Officer, who shall act as a liaison with the Scottish Executive and who shall have no voting rights.
- b) The Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall have the following status and duties:
  - i) The duties of the Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall be as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
  - ii) The Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall be the Scottish Women's Elections Committee and shall be responsible for all matters relating to elections at Scottish Women's Conference.
  - iii) The Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall be the Credentials Committee of the Scottish Women's Conference and shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of that Committee as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
- c) The two members elected at Scottish Women's Conference shall serve from the end of the Conference at which they are elected until the end of the Conference the following year.
- d) The Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall meet as and when it deems fit to deal with matters relating to Scottish Women's Conference.

#### ELECTIONS

- a) The NUS Scotland Women's Officer shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The NUS Scotland Women's Officer shall be elected by Alternative Vote at the Scottish Women's Conference.
  - ii) A woman shall be eligible to stand for election as NUS Scotland Woman's Officer if, at the close of nominations, she is a full or part-time student member of the National Union in Scotland.
  - iii) Any women who have held the post of Woman's Officer on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to that post.
  - iv) Nominations for the post of NUS Scotland Women's Officer shall be made by at least five full or part-time women student members from five different Scottish Constituent Members.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish Women's Elections Committee, or its nominated agent, no later than 2pm, ten days before the first day of Scottish Women's Conference.

- b) The Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
- i) The four full members of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish Women's Conference.
  - ii) A woman shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee if, at the close of nominations, she is a full or part-time member of the National Union in Scotland.
  - iii) Any woman who has served as a member of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee on two occasions shall be ineligible for re-election to the Committee, except as Women's Officer.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall be made by at least three full or part-time student women members of the National Union in Scotland.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish Women's Steering Committee no later than a time specified by them.
- c) The Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
- i) The two full members of the Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish Women's Conference.
  - ii) A woman shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish Women's Steering Committee if, at the close of nominations, she is a full or part-time member of the National Union.
  - iii) A serving member of the Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall be eligible to stand for re-election.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall be made by at least two delegates to the Scottish Women's Conference.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Women's Elections Committee no later than a time specified by them. When a member of the Scottish Women's Steering Committee is standing for re-election, his/her nominations must be submitted to a retiring member of the Committee. When there are no retiring members of the Committee, the Scottish Women's Elections Committee shall nominate a person to act as the Returning Officer for the election; subject to the approval of Scottish Women's Conference, and that person shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Elections Committee for that election only.

#### SCOTTISH WOMENS CAMPAIGN REGULATIONS

##### PROCEDURE BEFORE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

- a) The Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall give written notice of the Scottish Women's Conference to all Constituent members at least eight weeks and one day before the day on which the Conference is to be held.
- b) (I) Written notice of motions submitted by Constituent Members shall reach Scottish Women's Steering Committee or its nominated agent at least five weeks before the Conference.
  - (ii) A Constituent Member may submit up to three ordinary motions.
- c) (i) Written notice of amendments submitted by Constituent members shall reach the Scottish Women's Steering Committee or its nominated agent at least two weeks before the Conference.
  - (ii) A Constituent Member may submit up to three amendments to any motions included on the Agenda for Women's Conference.
- d) (i) Emergency Motions may be submitted in writing to the Scottish Women's Steering Committee or its nominated agent up to 5pm, three days before the Conference.
  - (ii) An Emergency Motion must satisfy the criteria of Standing Order 11b).
  - (iii) A Constituent Member may submit only one Emergency Motion.
- e) The Scottish Women's Steering Committee shall rule out of order any motion or amendment which has not been passed by a women-only group or meeting which all women members of the Constituent member are entitled to attend.
- f) The Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall have the power to prioritise one motion for discussion at the Scottish Women's Conference.
- g) For the purposes of the Scottish Women's Conference the full members of the Scottish Women's Campaign Committee shall be deemed to be a delegation and referred to as a Constituent Member. However, they shall not have observer status.
- h) All other procedures shall follow the Regulations of NUS Scotland, as suitably amended.

#### 17. SCOTTISH LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANS CAMPAIGN

There shall be at least the following meetings of NUS Scotland each year:

- a) Scottish LGBT Conference

##### SCOTTISH LGBT CONFERENCE

- a) A Scottish LGBT Conference shall be called by the Scottish LGBT Officer at the request of
  - (i) The Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee
  - (ii) The Scottish Executive
- (iii) Scottish LGBT Conference

b) All persons attending the Scottish LGBT Conference in whatever capacity shall be self-defined Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual student members or self-determined Trans student members and shall be categorised as follows:

(i) Delegates who shall have full speaking and voting rights  
Constituent Members shall be entitled to send the same number of delegates to Scottish LGBT Conference as to a Scottish Conference. Delegates must be elected by according to the relevant provisions of the Rules of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom. The Scottish LGBT Officer and full members of the LGBT Campaign Committee shall be classified as delegates.

(ii) Observers with full speaking rights but no voting rights  
There shall be no limit on the number of observers that a Constituent Member may send to the Scottish LGBT Conference. Scottish Area LGBT Officers, Area Convenors who are LGBT and LGBT members of the Scottish Executive shall be classified as observers.

(iii) Members of Scottish LGBT Steering Committee  
Members of Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall have speaking rights on matters relating to their responsibilities only but shall have no voting rights.

c) If a dispute arises as to the right of a person to attend Scottish LGBT Conference it shall be referred to the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee whose decision shall be final subject only to revocation by the Scottish LGBT Conference.

d) No session of Scottish LGBT Conference excluding workshops, shall proceed to business unless five Constituent members are represented.

e) Scottish LGBT Conference shall be regulated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland or by reference to the National Rules.

f) Scottish LGBT Conference shall have the following powers:

i) To pass resolutions on matters of interest to LGBT students which shall be binding on the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee.

ii) To receive reports and ask questions of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee either collectively or individually.

iii) To elect the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer.

iv) To elect four other full members of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee.

v) To elect the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee.

#### THE SCOTTISH LGBT CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

a) There shall be a Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee of LGBT students only which shall comprise:

i) The NUS Scotland LGBT Officer who shall be full member with voting rights.

ii) Four other full members with voting rights elected at the Scottish LGBT Conference.

iii) The Scottish Areas' LGBT Officers, Scottish Area Convenors who are LGBT students, and LGBT members of the NUS Scotland Executive, who shall be non-voting members of the Committee.

b) i) The NUS Scotland LGBT Officer shall be responsible for convening meetings of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee.

ii) The quorum for the meetings will be at least one half plus one of the actual full members.

iii) Any full member of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings without submitting apologies shall be deemed to have resigned. Such resignations shall come into effect immediately.

c) The Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee shall have the following powers:

i) To effect the policy determined by the Scottish LGBT Conference.

ii) To fill any vacancy amongst the full members of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee, with the exception of the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer, with a non-voting co-optee. The Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee shall ensure that notice of any vacancy to be filled by co-option is circulated to all Constituent Members in sufficient time to receive notification of proposed co-optees.

d) The full members of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee shall be accountable to the Scottish LGBT Conference.

e) The full members of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee shall take office immediately after the Scottish LGBT Conference at which they are elected and shall serve until the last day of June in the following year, save that the term of office of the Scottish LGBT Officer shall be as that for the National Executive full-time officers.

#### THE SCOTTISH LGBT STEERING COMMITTEE

a) There shall be a Scottish LGBT Steering Committee who shall comprise:

i) Two members elected at the Scottish LGBT Conference.

ii) One LGBT member of the Scottish Steering Committee who shall act as liaison between the two bodies and who shall have full voting rights.

iii) In the absence of an LGBT member of the Scottish Steering Committee, the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall comprise two full members only. A Liaison shall be appointed by the Scottish Steering Committee who shall attend meetings of the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee by invitation only, shall have no voting rights and shall not be entitled to attend Scottish LGBT Conference.

- iv) The NUS Scotland LGBT Officer, who shall act as a liaison with the Scottish Executive and who shall have no voting rights.
- b) The Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall have the following status and duties:
  - i) The duties of the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall be as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
  - ii) One place shall be reserved for a woman student, provided that such a person stands. For the purposes of the clause re-open nominations shall be considered a women candidate.
  - iii) The Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall be the Scottish LGBT Elections Committee and shall be responsible for all matters relating to elections at Scottish LGBT Conference.
- iv) The Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall be the Credentials Committee of the Scottish LGBT Conference and shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of that Committee as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
- c) The two members elected at Scottish LGBT Conference shall serve for from the end of the Conference at which they are elected until the end of the Conference the following year.
- d) The Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall meet as and when it deems fit to deal with matters relating to Scottish LGBT Conference.

#### ELECTIONS

- a) The NUS Scotland LGBT Officer shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The NUS Scotland LGBT Officer shall be elected by Alternative Vote at the Scottish LGBT Conference.
  - ii) A LGBT student shall be eligible to stand for election as NUS Scotland LGBT Officer if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time student member of the National Union.
  - iii) Any LGBT student who has held the post of LGBT Officer on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to that post.
  - iv) Nominations for the post of NUS Scotland LGBT Officer shall be made by at least five full or part-time LGBT student members of the National Union of Scotland from five different Constituent Members.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish LGBT Elections Committee, or its nominated agent, no later than 2pm, ten days before the first day of Scottish LGBT Conference.
- b) The Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The four full members of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish LGBT Conference. One place shall be reserved for a student from the FE Sector, provided such a person stands. For the purposes of this clause, re-open nominations shall be considered an FE candidate.
  - ii) A LGBT student shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time student member of the National Union through membership of a Scottish CM or a relevant NUS Scotland committee.
  - iii) Any LGBT student who has served as a member of the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee on two occasions shall be ineligible for re-election to the Committee except if standing for LGBT Officer.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish LGBT Campaign Committee shall be made by at least three full or part-time student members of the National Union in Scotland who must self-define as LGBT.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee no later than a time specified by them.
- c) The Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The two full members of the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish LGBT Conference.
  - ii) A LGBT student shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time member of the National Union.
  - iii) A serving member of the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall be eligible to stand for re-election.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee shall be made by at least two delegates to the Scottish LGBT Conference.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish LGBT Elections Committee no later than a time specified by them. When a member of the Scottish LGBT Steering Committee is standing for re-election, his/her nominations must be submitted to a retiring member of the Committee. When there are no retiring members of the Committee, the Scottish LGBT Elections Committee shall nominate a person to act as the Returning Officer for the election; subject to the approval of Scottish LGBT Conference, and that person shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Scottish LGBT Elections Committee for that election only.

#### 18. SCOTTISH DISABLED STUDENTS' CAMPAIGN

- (a) There shall be at least the following meetings of NUS Scotland each year:
  - Scottish Disabled Students' Conference

## SCOTTISH DISABLED STUDENTS' CONFERENCE

- a) A Scottish Disabled Students' Conference shall be called by the Scottish Disabled Students' Officer at the request of
- (i) The Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee
  - (ii) The Scottish Executive
  - (iii) Scottish Disabled Students' Conference
- b) All persons attending the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference in whatever capacity shall be self-defined as being disabled and shall be categorised as follows:
- (i) Delegates who shall have full speaking and voting rights  
Constituent Members shall be entitled to send the same number of delegates to Scottish Disabled Students' Conference as to a Scottish Conference. Delegates must be elected by according to the relevant provisions of the Rules of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom. The Scottish Disabled Students' Officer and full members of the Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall be classified as delegates.
  - (ii) Observers with full speaking rights but no voting rights  
There shall be no limit on the number of observers that a Constituent Member may send to the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - (iii) Members of Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee  
Members of Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall have speaking rights on matters relating to their responsibilities only but shall have no voting rights.
- c) If a dispute arises as to the right of a person to attend Scottish Disabled Students' Conference it shall be referred to the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee whose decision shall be final subject only to revocation by the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
- d) No session of Scottish Disabled Students' Conference, excluding workshops, shall proceed to business unless five Constituent Members are represented.
- e) Scottish Disabled Students' Conference shall be regulated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland or by reference to the National Rules.
- f) Scottish Disabled Students' Conference shall have the following powers:
- (i) To receive reports and ask questions of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee either collectively or individually.
  - (ii) To elect the NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer.
  - (iii) To elect four other full members of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee.
  - (iv) To elect the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee.

## THE SCOTTISH DISABLED STUDENTS' CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

- a) There shall be a Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee of disabled students only, which shall comprise:
- i) The NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer who shall be a full member with voting rights.
  - ii) Four other full members with voting rights elected at the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - iii) The Scottish Areas' Disabled Students' Officers, Area Convenors who are disabled students, and disabled student members of the NUS Scotland Executive, who shall be non-voting members of the Committee.
- b) i) The NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer shall be responsible for convening meetings of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee.  
ii) The quorum for the meetings will be at least one half plus one of the actual full members.  
iii) Any full member of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings without submitting apologies shall be deemed to have resigned. Such resignations shall come into effect immediately.
- c) The Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall have the following powers:
- i) To effect the policy determined by the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - ii) To fill any vacancy amongst the full members of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee, with the exception of the NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer, with a non-voting co-optee. The Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall ensure that notice of any vacancy to be filled by co-option is circulated to all Constituent Members in sufficient time to receive notification of proposed co-optees.
- d) The full members of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall be accountable to the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
- e) The full members of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall take office immediately after the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference at which they are elected and shall serve until the last day of June in the following year, save that the term of office of the Scottish Disabled Students' Officer shall be as that for the National Executive full-time officers.

## THE SCOTTISH DISABLED STUDENTS' STEERING COMMITTEE

- a) There shall be a Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee who shall comprise:
- i) Two members elected at the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.

- ii) One disabled student member of the Scottish Steering Committee who shall act as liaison between the two bodies and who shall have full voting rights.
- iii) In the absence of a disabled student member of the Scottish Steering Committee, the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall comprise two full members only. A liaison shall be appointed by the Scottish Steering Committee who shall attend meetings of the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee by invitation only, shall have no voting rights and shall not be entitled to attend Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
- iv) The NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer, who shall act as a liaison with the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign and who shall have no voting rights.
- b) The Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall have the following status and duties:
  - i) The duties of the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall be as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
  - ii) The Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall be the Scottish Disabled Students' Elections Committee and shall be responsible for all matters relating to elections at Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - iii) The Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall be the Credentials Committee of the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference and shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of that Committee as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
- c) The two members elected at Scottish Disabled Students' Conference shall serve from the end of the Conference at which they are elected until the end of the following Disabled Students' Conference.
- d) The Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall meet as and when it deems fit to deal with matters relating to Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.

#### ELECTIONS

- a) The NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer shall be elected by Alternative Vote at the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - ii) A disabled student shall be eligible to stand for election as NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer if, at the close of nominations, she is a full or part-time student member of the National Union.
  - iii) Any disabled student who has held the post of Disabled Student Officer on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to that post.
  - iv) Nominations for the post of NUS Scotland Disabled Students' Officer shall be made by at least five full or part-time disabled student members of the National Union of Scotland from five different Constituent Members.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish Disabled Students' Elections Committee, or its nominated agent, no later than 2pm, ten days before the first day of Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
- b) The Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The four full members of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - ii) A disabled student shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time student member of the National Union.
  - iii) Any disabled student who has served as a member of the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee on two occasions shall be ineligible for re-election to the Committee except if standing for Scottish Disabled Students' Officer.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish Disabled Students' Campaign Committee shall be made by at least three full or part-time student members of the National Union in Scotland.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee no later than a time specified by them.
- c) The Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The two full members of the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.
  - ii) A disabled student shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time member of the National Union.
  - iii) A serving member of the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall be eligible to stand for re-election.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish Disabled Students' Steering Committee shall be made by at least two delegates to the Scottish Disabled Students' Conference.

- v) Nominations must be received by the Disabled Students' Elections Committee no later than a time specified by them. When a member of the Scottish Steering Committee is standing for re-election, his/her nominations must be submitted to a retiring member of the Committee. When there are no retiring members of the Committee, the Elections Committee shall nominate a person to act as the Returning Officer for the election; subject to the approval of Scottish Conference, and that person shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Elections Committee for that election only.

#### 19. SCOTTISH BLACK STUDENTS' CAMPAIGN

There shall be at least the following meetings of NUS Scotland each year:

- (a) Scottish Black Students' Conference

#### SCOTTISH BLACK STUDENTS' CONFERENCE

- a) A Scottish Black Students' Conference shall be called by the Scottish Black Students' Officer at the request of
- (i) The Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee
  - (ii) The Scottish Executive
  - (iii) Scottish Black Students' Conference
- b) All persons attending the Scottish Black Students' Conference in whatever capacity shall be black students on a self-determining basis and shall be categorised as follows:
- (i) Delegates who shall have full speaking and voting rights  
Constituent Members shall be entitled to send the same number of delegates to Scottish Black Students' Conference as to a Scottish Conference. Delegates must be elected by according to the relevant provisions of the Rules of the National Union of Students of the United Kingdom. The Scottish Black Students' Officer and full members of the Black Students' Campaign Committee shall be classified as delegates.
  - (ii) Observers with full speaking rights but no voting rights  
There shall be no limit on the number of observers that a Constituent Member may send to the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - (iii) Members of Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee  
Members of Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall have speaking rights on matters relating to their responsibilities only but shall have no voting rights.
- c) If a dispute arises as to the right of a person to attend Scottish Black Students' Conference it shall be referred to the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee whose decision shall be final subject only to revocation by the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
- d) No session of Scottish Black Students' Conference excluding workshops, shall proceed to business unless five Constituent Members are represented.
- e) Scottish Black Students' Conference shall be regulated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of NUS Scotland or by reference to the National Rules.
- f) Scottish Black Students' Conference shall have the following powers:
- i) To receive reports and ask questions of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee either collectively or individually.
  - ii) To elect the NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer.
  - iii) To elect four other full members of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee.
  - iv) To elect the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee.

#### THE SCOTTISH BLACK STUDENTS' CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

- a) There shall be a Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee of which shall comprise:
- i) The NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer who shall be a full member with voting rights.
  - ii) Four other full members with voting rights elected at the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - iii) The Scottish Areas' Black Students' Officers, Area Convenors who self-define as black students, and members of the NUS Scotland Executive who self-define as black, shall be non-voting members of the Committee.
- b)
- i) The NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer shall be responsible for convening meetings of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee.
  - ii) The quorum for the meetings will be at least one half plus one of the actual full members.
  - iii) Any full member of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings without submitting apologies shall be deemed to have resigned. Such resignations shall come into effect immediately.
- c) The Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee shall have the following powers:
- i) To effect the policy determined by the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - ii) To fill any vacancy amongst the full members of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee, with the exception of the NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer, with a non-voting co-optee. The Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee shall ensure that notice of any vacancy to be filled by co-option is circulated to all Constituent Members in sufficient time to receive notification of proposed co-optees.

- f) The full members of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee shall be accountable to the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
- g) The full members of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee shall take office immediately after the Scottish Black Students' Conference at which they are elected and shall serve until the last day of June in the following year, save that the term of office of the Scottish Black Students' Officer shall be as that for the National Executive full-time officers.

#### THE SCOTTISH BLACK STUDENTS' STEERING COMMITTEE

- a) There shall be a Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee who shall comprise:
  - i) Two members elected at the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - ii) One black student member of the Scottish Steering Committee who shall act as liaison between the two bodies and who shall have full voting rights.
  - iii) In the absence of a black student member of the Scottish Steering Committee, the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall comprise two full members only. A liaison shall be appointed by the Scottish Steering Committee who shall attend meetings of the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee by invitation only, shall have no voting rights and shall not be entitled to attend Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - iv) The NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer, who shall act as a liaison with the Scottish Executive and who shall have no voting rights.
- b) The Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall have the following status and duties:
  - i) The duties of the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall be as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
  - ii) The Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall be the Scottish Black Students' Elections Committee and shall be responsible for all matters relating to elections at Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - iv) The Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall be the Credentials Committee of the Scottish Black Students' Conference and shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of that Committee as specified in the Regulations of NUS Scotland.
- i) The two members elected at Scottish Black Students' Conference shall serve for one year from the end of the Conference at which they are elected.
- j) The Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall meet as and when it deems fit to deal with matters relating to Scottish Black Students' Conference.

#### ELECTIONS

- a) The NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer shall be elected by Alternative Vote at the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - ii) A self-defining black student shall be eligible to stand for election as NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time student member of the National Union.
  - iii) Any black student who has held the post of Black Students' Officer on two occasions shall be ineligible to stand for re-election to that post.
  - iv) Nominations for the post of NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer shall be made by at least five full or part-time black student members of the National Union of Scotland from five different Constituent Members.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Black Students' Elections Committee, or its nominated agent, no later than 2pm, ten days before the first day of Scottish Black Students' Conference.
- b) The Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The four full members of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - ii) A self-defining black student shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time student member of the National Union.
  - iii) Any black student who has served as a member of the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee on two occasions shall be ineligible for re-election to the Committee.
  - iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish Black Students' Campaign Committee shall be made by at least three full or part-time student members of the National Union in Scotland.
  - v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee no later than a time specified by them.
- c) The Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall be elected in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) The two full members of the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall be elected by Single Transferable Vote at the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
  - ii) A black student shall be eligible to stand as a member of the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee if, at the close of nominations, s/he is a full or part-time member of the National Union.

- iii) A serving member of the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall be eligible to stand for re-election.
- iv) Nominations for election to the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee shall be made by at least two delegates to the Scottish Black Students' Conference.
- v) Nominations must be received by the Scottish Black Students' Elections Committee no later than a time specified by them. When a member of the Scottish Black Students' Steering Committee is standing for re-election, his/her nominations must be submitted to a retiring member of the Committee. When there are no retiring members of the Committee, the Elections Committee shall nominate a person to act as the Returning Officer for the election; subject to the approval of Scottish Black Students' Conference, and that person shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Elections Committee for that election only.

## NUS RULES | STUDENT SECTIONS

### Autonomy

- 1.1. The work of each student section shall come directly under the remit of and control of the Convenor of a Zone, which shall be allocated by the President. Each student section shall report regularly to its Zone Committee. The student section shall have the right to report directly to the National Conference, as required in these Rules and as required by resolution of its own committee and conference.

### Conference

- 2.1. There shall be a Conference annually for each of the Student Sections, which shall elect the Committee and shall discuss matter of concern to that section of students.
- 2.2. The Conference shall be open to that section's students, and only that section's students shall be eligible for election as delegates to the conference.
- 2.3. The definition of who constitutes a student in each section for the purposes of entitlement to attend the conference or stand in elections shall be approved by National Conference.
- 2.4. The Conference shall be governed by such standing orders and delegate entitlement, as it shall itself propose and National Conference shall decide.
- 2.5. The following shall be members of the Section Conference:
  - a Members with voting and speaking rights.
    - i Members of the Section Committee
    - ii Delegates appointed by Constituent Members
  - b Members with speaking rights
    - i Members of the National Executive Council, or Liberation or Nations Committees and Area Organisations
  - c Members with limited speaking rights.
    - i Members of Democratic Procedures Committee or the Board
    - ii Candidates for election to the Section Committee or Officer who may speak on matters relating to their election.

### Committee

- 3.1. There shall be a Section Committee which shall consist of:
  - 3.1.1. A number of members (a maximum of 8) elected by the relevant Conference in a manner decided by the Conference, and approved by the Chief Returning Officer.
  - 3.1.2. In the case of the International Students committee, the International Students officer
  - 3.1.3. In the case of the Mature and Part Time Students committee, the National Executive Council Mature Students' Rep and the National Executive Council Part Time Students' Rep
  - 3.1.4. Any related representatives or officers of NUS Scotland and UCMU/NUS Wales and the Northern Irelands region of NUS /USI with voting rights.

### Committee Election

- 4.1. The election of the Section Committee shall be conducted in a manner decided by the Conference and approved by the Chief Returning Officer.
- 4.2. A person shall be eligible for election to the Section Committee if at the close of nominations they are individual student members of the National Union, and if, they are a student of that section
- 4.3. The International Students Conference shall annually elect an International Students' Officer whose terms of office shall be approved by National Conference and the committee shall then select from its own number an additional member of the National Executive Council. In the event that the Officer is an EU student the additional National Executive Council member must be non-EU and vice-versa
- 4.4. The Mature and Part Time Students Conference shall annually elect a Mature Students' Member of the National Executive Council and a Part Time Students' Member of the National Executive Council
- 5.5 The Postgraduate students' section shall annually elect a taught postgraduate rep to the National Executive Council and a research postgraduate rep to the National Executive Council

<b>Amendment</b>	<b>201a</b>
	<b>ADD AMENDMENT</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>NUS Democracy</b>
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Dunstable College, Goldsmiths, Staffordshire University, Middlesex University, Cranfield University, University of East London, City University</b>
<b>Speech for:</b>	<b>Goldsmiths (2 mins)</b>
<b>Against:</b>	<b>Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>Middlesex University (1 min)</b>

## Conference Believes:

1. That the last twenty years of neoliberalism has seen power centralised through privatisation and the unleashing of financial markets.
2. This has been mirrored in the 3rd sector as charities take over areas of social support and adopt more corporate structures.
3. Campaign organisations are either being incorporated into the consensus that real change is impossible or are challenging the logic of the market through mobilising popular support.
4. Every movement that won has combined popular action with grass roots democracy, from the struggle for the vote to the US Civil rights movement
5. That since the early 90s the NUS leadership has been gradually eroding its democratic structures and centralising power.
6. That our democratic structures are under prioritised and under resourced. This is why they are disempowering to new students.
7. That putting the constitution NUS Conference 2008 voted down to an emergency conference was a subversion of democracy.
8. There are many problems with NUS current structures, but these proposals would not solve these problems and would instead introduce many new problems. The Constitution would sideline representatives of the Liberation campaigns, reducing NUS' ability to represent the diverse needs and views of students. Opportunities for students to influence NUS' priorities would be restricted, and democratic accountability weakened even further.

## Conference Further Believes:

1. That the restricting democracy in NUS is an accommodation to declining democratic involvement in society.
2. The leadership's vision of NUS is one of highly paid professionals that are part of the policy debate within government - operating within the limits of "mainstream" Westminster opinion.
3. The idea that this can win real change is refuted by the struggle for the vote, the civil rights movement, trade unionism and every movement that has changed society.
4. That scrapping democracy in favour of bureaucracy from above is destroying NUS as a union for students.
5. The debate around external trustee boards, "best practice" and liability are a smoke screen for destroying democratic accountability within the student movement.
6. We need to address NUS' problems politically by taking up campaigns that relate to and involve students in shaping the world around them.
7. Allowing decisions about the proposed Constitution to be taken at Extraordinary Conferences is an attempt to bypass the will of Annual Conference.

## Conference Resolves:

1. To condemn the NEC for ignoring the vote of annual conference and pushing for an emergency conference.

**Amendment**                    **201b**  
**ADD AND DELETES CR2 FROM 201**  
**Heading:**                    **Tenure of Democratic Procedures Committee Members**  
**Submitted by:**            **Rules Revision Committee**

**Speech for:**                **Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:**        **Free (2 min)**

Conference resolves to amend the proposed schedules as follows:

1. Democratic Procedures Committee Rule 8, delete "No person shall serve more than two two year terms on the committee"

**Amendment**                    **201c**  
**Heading:**                    **Tenure of DPC Members II**  
**Submitted by:**            **Steering Committee**

**Speech for:**                **Steering Committee (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:**        **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**              **Steering Committee (1 mins)**

**Conference resolves to replace DPC 8 with:**

1. "Individual Member may be removed from membership of the committee by a simple majority vote on a motion of no-confidence, passed by the National Conference or by a majority vote in the National Ballot.
2. No member may serve more than two elected terms of office on the DPC, either consecutive or non-consecutive. A term may be shorter than two years as a result of transitional arrangements or a mid-term by election."

**Amendment**                    **201d**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                    **Full Time International Students' Officer**  
**Submitted by:**            **Rules Revision Committee**

**Speech for:**                **Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:**        **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**              **Rules Revision Committee (1 min)**

Conference Believes

1. In having a full time international students' officer
2. Clause 100 of the core constitution requires the student sections rules to state that it is full time for it to actually be full time

Conference Resolves

1. To add clause 3.1.5 to Student Sections Rules "The International Students' Officer shall be a full time officer"

**Main Motion**  
**Speech Against:**        **Free (2 min)**  
**Summation:**              **(1 min)**

**Motion:** 202  
**Heading:** Democratic Regulations  
**Submitted by:** Rules Revision Committee

**Speech for:** Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Rules Revision Committee (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That the proposed schedules require the new DPC to establish regulations for drafting commissions and taking "parts"
2. Drafting commissions are widely regarded as a horrible experience
3. "Parts" can be confusing for delegates

Conference Further Believes

1. That the regs should take into account the new structures and the need to make conference and its processes more accessible
2. That CMs should be able to waive a speech they own
3. That people should know in advance that they are going to speak and can better prepare themselves.

Conference Resolves

1. To create the new regulations as soon as possible
2. That until they are created and where the new regulations are silent the principle of precedent shall apply
3. To ensure the right to waive a speech is built into the new compositing regulations that deal with speech ownership issues

**Motion:** 203  
**Heading:** NUS Wales  
**Submitted by:** Rules Revision Committee

**Speech for:** Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Rules Revision Committee (1min)

Conference Believes:

1. By the time of Annual Conference NUS Wales will have debated a new set of rules for itself that are different to the "holding rules" we submitted for them.

Conference Resolves to Amend the Transitional Arrangements schedule as follows:

1. That if NUS Wales successfully passes a new set of rules for itself that under transitional arrangements the new NEC are hereby empowered to adopt those rules into the new constitution of NUS.

**Motion:** 204  
**Heading:** Card Vote  
**Submitted by:** Rules Revision Committee

**Speech for:** Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Finance Committee (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Rules Revision Committee (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That the use of a card vote is outdated and unfair
2. Where the votes of each delegation can only be cast as a block equal to the number of members of the CM unfairly advantages bigger CMs and makes the opinions of individual delegates irrelevant

Conference Resolves:

1. In clause 31 of conference rules, delete ",to ask for a card vote"
2. Delete 32.3 of conference rules
3. In conference rules 41 delete "by card or"
4. Delete 43 of conference rules

**Motion:** 205  
**Heading:** NEC Member Elected by Zone  
**Submitted by:** Rules Revision Committee

**Speech for:** Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Rules Revision Committee (1 min)

Conference believes

1. That NEC members should be elected by the Zone Conference not the Zone Committee

Conference resolves to amend the rules as follows

1. NEC rules 3 changes to read "Each of the 5 Zones shall elect one member..."
2. Zones rules 1.3 replace "six" with "five"
3. Add Zones Rules 1.4 "One individual member elected by and at the Zone Conference, who shall also act as the NEC member for that zone", and renumber appropriately
4. Delete Zones Rules: 3

**Motion:** 206  
**Heading:** Zones  
**Submitted by:** Rules Revision Committee

**Speech for:** Rules Revision Committee (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Rules Revision Committee (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. That the only work for Zone Committees before the next Zone conference is holding NEC to account
2. That Annual Conference should be able to discuss any issue, including one that has been debated by national ballot
3. That Zone reports can make serious policy changes

Conference Further Believes:

1. There is no point NEC appointing people to meet at cost to hold themselves to account
2. That the amount of time given to discuss referring back parts of zone reports should not be constitutionally limited

Conference Resolves:

1. To remove text "and the national conference will immediately vote on the adoption of all sections not referred back" from NUS Rules: National Conference Rules 52.

**Motion:** 207  
**Heading:** Amendments to the Constitutional Schedules  
**Submitted by:** Queen Mary University, Salford University  
**Interrelationship:** If passed this motion amends "Conference Rules" passed at EC2

**Speech for:** Free (2 min)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 min)  
**Summation:** Free (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That point 83 under "Replacement of Trustees" which states "save that between meetings of the National Conference the National Executive Council shall have the power to exercise the National Conference's power of appointment" should be replaced with "save that between meetings of the National Conference a National Ballot will be exercised allowing all Constituent Members to have a full say in all Trustees appointed for the NUS"
2. That point 13 under "Appointment of delegates" which states "The requirement for delegates to be elected by Cross Campus Ballot will not apply to an Extraordinary Meeting of the National Conference of the National Union" should be replaced with "The requirement for delegates to be elected by Cross Campus Ballot will also apply to an Extraordinary Meeting of the National Conference of the National Union"

3. That point 1.5 under "Zone Committees" which states "Up to three co-opted members at the invitation of the committee who will be non voting and may not be individual student members of the National Union" should be removed.

Conference Resolves:

1. To enforce all the changes suggested in Conference Believes.



2. That RBS has had two years of constructive engagement with NUS, People & Planet and Platform to improve its environmental performance

Conference Resolves

1. To mandate the new Trustee Board to assess ethical and commercial considerations when reviewing our banking and investment options
2. The ethical considerations will include but not be limited to:
  - Environmental record
  - Ethical legitimacy
  - Trade Union relationships
  - Marketing opportunities
  - Perceptions of students
3. This should form part of the standard Board Report to the AGM at National Conference



Conference Further Believes:

1. That the student occupations enjoyed huge support from the general student population and some of the mainstream press.
2. That our unions should help spread, promote and support students protests to engage new activists.
3. That the occupations point to a type of student unionism directly opposed to the managerialism of trustee boards and best practice.
4. That if we could unite NUS with the activism of the occupations we could revitalise many of our unions.

Conference Resolves:

1. To promote the tactic of student occupations.
2. To oppose the victimisations of students involved in the occupations – whether by their university or their union.
3. To create a legal briefing to help activists planning an occupation (within the spirit of this amendment).
4. To invite speakers from the occupations to talk about their experience at NUS events.

**Amendment:**               **501b**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                 **Campaigning for Change: The Activist Academy**  
**Submitted by:**         **University of Manchester, Leeds University Union**

**Speech for:**               **Leeds University Union (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:**       **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**             **Leeds University Union (1 min)**

Conference Believes:

1. We have seen a dramatic rise in the use of sites such as Facebook, YouTube and blogs over the past few years.
2. These websites provide a unique opportunity for us to connect to our membership, and campaign effectively.
3. There is a danger of an increasing problem with internet harassment, libel and racist content being associated with student unions.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the internet poses a unique challenge to students unions and the NUS with regards to discrimination and harassment.
2. Student officers have a responsibility to ensure that any content they post in a public forum does not damage the reputation of their union or guild, nor does it break any equal opportunities policies that the NUS or its constituent members hold.

Conference Resolves:

1. To commission a piece of research in the use of the internet within the student movement.
2. To use the research to produce a set of guidelines for students officers to allow the full potential of the internet to be utilised by student unions and incorporate this into the work of the activist academy.

**Speech Against:**       **Free (1 min)**  
**Summation:**             **(1 min)**

**Motion:**                 **502**  
**Heading:**               **Greening Students' Unions**  
**Submitted by:**       **Kent Union, University of Bristol Students' Union, University of Plymouth Students' Union, City College Norwich, Edinburgh University, Birmingham Guild, Lancaster University**

**Speech for:**             **Kent Union (2 mins)**

Conference Believes:

1. Whatever their size and business activities, students' unions can make a real difference to their impact of climate change by taking effective, often small, steps to ensure that all union activities are conducted in an environmentally responsible, sustainable manner.
2. That the government is currently running a national campaign, 'Act on CO2' that encourages all families and business to reduce their carbon footprint.

- That NUS and many students' unions also have an effective track record of working alongside progressive organisations to campaign for environmentally sound and sustainable policies: from universities and colleges through to national government; our message will be stronger if we practice what we preach.

Conference Further Believes:

- That the Sound Impact awards have led to real change in students' unions' practice and more must be done to promote this impact locally and nationally.
- The adaptation of South Impact Awards to include Further Education, and Small and Specialist Students' Unions is a progressive step so that every students' union can benchmark their environmental success.
- That the creation of a new NUS VP for Society and Citizenship offers real potential for the VP Union Development to link up the excellent practice in many students' unions to our wider demands for society to take the tough action needed to stop climate chaos.
- Students' unions and NUS must be seen as exemplars of good practice

Conference Resolves:

- To mandate the VP Union Development to work with the VP Society & Citizenship to link this work to our broader campaigning work.
- To mandate the VP Union Development and NUS President to improve NUS' own performance in the Sound Impact scheme.
- That we celebrate the success of the 2007/8 Sound Impact Awards Scheme where nearly 70 students' unions took part.
- That NUS work with the Environmental Association for Universities & Colleges (EAUC) all other relevant organisations to improve on sustainability of colleges, directly impacting on students' unions in FE.
- That NUS will help students' unions develop strategic plans so each constituent member can ensure they are taking action on environmental issues.

**Amendment**

**502a**

**ADD AMENDMENT**

**Heading:**

**Greening Students' Unions – Ultra Vires**

**Submitted by:**

**Sussex University Students' Union**

**Speech for:**

**Sussex University Students' Union (2 mins)**

**Speech against:**

**NEC (2 mins)**

**Speech for:**

**Free (1.5 mins)**

**Speech against:**

**Free (1.5 mins)**

**Summation:**

**Sussex University Students' Union (1 min)**

Add to Conference Believes:

- Students have a vital role to play in campaigns on campus and at a national and international level as green issues go beyond institution level.
- Greening student unions involves more than changing policy and practice, but also changing student culture to encourage and enable students to make informed decisions around ethical and environmental issues.
- The 'Sound Impact Awards' is an excellent first step, but student unions can go further to achieve best practice.
- Students and student unions take leading roles in environmental campaigns, organisations and movements such as the Climate Change March, the Campaign Against Climate Change and Climate Camp. These play a big role in raising awareness and educating on our campuses whilst putting more pressure on institutions and the government for change.
- Charities law and ultra-vires restrains student unions and its members from campaigning on green issues and Student Unions need to support them in order to achieve these goals.

Add to Conference Resolves:

- For NUS to help student unions to legally get around ultra-vires restrictions on funding and campaigning and lobby the Charities Commission to include environmental issues as part of Student Union's charitable aims.
- To lobby Universities UK to adopt similar policies and practices and to enforce them throughout the sector.

**Amendment**                    **502b**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                    **Sustainable Finances**  
**Submitted by:**            **Edinburgh University, Bristol University**

**Speech for:**                **Bristol University (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:**        **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**               **Bristol University (1 min)**

Conference Believes

1. NUS undertook research this year which showed that very few unions had a sustainable or ethical investment policy
2. This research also showed that Constituent Members use a range of different banks, and for a wide range number of reasons
3. That investment in certain corporate activities is inherently unethical. The survival of certain companies and industries is, by necessity or in-part, reliant on destruction, conflict and/or human suffering
4. That our Constituent Members pride ourselves as having a global impact and, as such, functional components, including NUS, should act responsibly within the global context; including how and where finances are managed
5. An ethical investment policy is an important step towards making a true commitment to global sustainable development and social justice

Conference Further Believes

1. In order for Constituent Members to approach their various commitments to ethical conduct more comprehensively, the principles of ethical practice need to be extended to include ethical finance practices

Conference Resolves

1. NUS will provide information to students' unions so they can make a sustainable choice about their banking provider
2. This information will include references about the impact of different banks on, but not limited to, these issues
  - Environmental record
  - Ethical legitimacy
  - Trade Union relationships
  - Marketing opportunities
  - Perceptions of students
3. That RBS has had two years of constructive engagement with NUS, People & Planet and Platform to improve its environmental performance
4. Further research will be undertaken to determine the level of appetite for NUS to constructively engage with banks on a national level on behalf of improving the strength of Students' Associations

**Amendment**                    **502c**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                    **Ethical Investment**  
**Submitted by:**            **Liverpool Guild, Bristol University, Edinburgh University**

**Speech for:**                **Liverpool Guild (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:**        **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**               **Liverpool Guild (1 min)**

Conference believes:

1. A number of leading-research intensive universities have investments in large multinational corporations.
2. BAE Systems, British American Tobacco, GlaxoSmithKline, BP, Shell Transport and Wyeth are common investors in university shares with inadequate consideration for the social or environmental impacts of these corporations.

Conference further believes

1. After prolonged battles, students in Edinburgh; East Anglia; St Andrews, amongst others, have achieved major success in their campaigns to get their universities to adopt an ethical investment policy.
2. Student activist groups; notably P&P and Amnesty are crucial to any Ethical Investment Campaign.
3. Identical Early Day Motions (EDM) have been submitted in both the Scottish and UK Parliaments. The EDM "calls on other universities in the UK to develop similar policies based on the shared values of their staff and students."

4. Effective campaigning unions are also there for educational advancement. Students' unions have the power to bring together academics and students to effectively define what 'ethical' means to students and the NUS.
5. An ethical investment is a complex and continually evolving issue and should be engaged with as such

Conference Resolves:

1. That NUS works alongside unions and pressure groups to collectively define what is meant by "ethical" investment.
2. That NUS lobby universities to adopt socially responsible investment (SRI) policies that restrict investment in companies that have a negative impact on society; encouraging investment in positive industries.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion** 503  
**Heading:** The Future is in Our Hands? We'll Have Representation Then!  
**Submitted by:** City College Plymouth, New College Nottingham

**Speech for:** City College Plymouth (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** New College Nottingham (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. There are nearly 200,000 apprentices in the UK. The Government has made a commitment for there to be 500,000 by 2020.
2. Government funding agencies contract with 'learning providers' to deliver apprenticeships, and may accredit them as a Centre of Vocational Excellence or National Skills Academy. These organisations provide off-the-job tuition and manage the bureaucratic workload associated with the apprenticeships.
3. Apprenticeships are open to people who want to follow a more vocational based learning environment. Apprenticeships are open to all age groups (above 16yrs) whether you are just leaving school, have been working for years or are seeking to start a new career.
4. Sector Skills Councils can responsible for the design and approval of Apprenticeship Frameworks.
5. In 'World Class Apprenticeships. The Government's strategy for the future of Apprenticeships in England. DIUS/DCSF, 2008. stated its intention to make apprenticeships a "mainstream" part of England's education system.
6. NUS recently successfully lobbied to ensure learner representation must be on all sector skills councils as part of their re-licensing agreements with the government.

Conference Further Believes

1. NUS has a responsibility to represent all learners over the age of 16
2. Apprenticeships should have access to a student representative body
3. NUS decision making structures and affiliation fees system do not reflect the modern education system

Conference Resolves

1. VP Union Development to establish regular contact with the Alliance of Sector Skills Councils on improving student representation on apprenticeships
2. Commission research which allows NUS to more include apprentices in their evidence based campaigning work
3. Facilitate best practice between students' unions already engaged in representing apprentices and work based learners
4. Vice President Union Development will report back by September 2009 on these key questions
  - How can students represent themselves on apprenticeships
  - How will NUS change its decision making structures to recognise apprentices are not the classic Higher Education Undergraduate students
  - What recommendations can be brought forward to ensure the effective representation of apprentices within NUS
  - What changes are necessary to the affiliation fees system

**Amendment**                    **503a**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                    **Dual Membership: HE in FE**  
**Submitted by:**            **Exeter College, Liverpool Guild**

**Speech for:**                **Liverpool Guild (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against:**        **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**               **Exeter College (1 min)**

Conference Believes:

1. There is also a number of institutions who are now have FE in HE
2. 8% of higher education is delivered in further education institutions.
3. The Leitch report, published in December 2006, suggested that for the UK to become a world leader in skills by 2020, 40% of adults should be have a level 4 qualification or higher.
4. In 2006-07, some 96,000 students were enrolled on higher education programmes at 270 colleges in England.

Conference Further Believes:

1. In order for the government to reach the Leitch report's target, it is likely that more HE qualifications will be delivered within FE colleges. This is to cover the geographical 'black spots', where there are no HE institutions.
2. With the growing provision of HE within FE, respective student unions will encounter increased challenges and conflicts of interest, which require clear leadership and guidance from our national union.
3. Dual memberships would benefit student members with improved access to facilities, services, and clubs and societies, thus improving the student experience.
4. Dual membership creates democratic challenges to constitutions within FE and HE, affecting delegation composition and therefore obstructing representation.
5. For FE in HE there are also a large number of issues that not only affect the constitution, but also the democratic elements of Unions.
6. Often in these cases HE sabbaticals have responsibility for FE provision, however often do not have the necessary training or support.
7. That with FE in He there is often conflicting issues around the learner voice and representation

Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the National Secretary/VP Union Development to produce a model memorandum of understanding for FE and HE partnerships.
2. To include FE in HE in any dual Membership work that we undertake.
3. To investigate the conflicts and compilation of FE in HE such as student governors and work around ofsted etc
4. NUS to look at dual membership unions and the implications for delegation entitlement to NUS democratic events.
5. To ensure that those officers who have responsibility for dual membership have access to the training connected to both sections of there memberships

**Speech Against:**        **Free (1 min)**  
**Summation:**               **(1 min)**

**Motion:**                    **504**  
**Heading:**                   **NUS Arts Representation and support for small and specialist students' unions**  
**Submitted by:**           **University of the Arts, Courtauld Institute of Art, Central School of Speech & Drama, Birkbeck College, Heythrop College**

**Speech for:**                **Courtauld Institute of Art (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:**        **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**               **University of the Arts, London (1 min)**

**Conference Believes**

1. That there are currently many small and specialist college unions affiliated to the NUS.
2. That these unions have specific needs and requirements due to their typically small budgets, the fact that many do not have sabbatical officers and those that do may operate as the single sabbatical officer with little or no staff support
3. Arts Students are under represented in national student politics.
4. The NUS has no policy on Arts students' specific issues.

5. Other specialist groups (e.g. Nurses) have members of the National Executive Committee (NEC) who voice their concerns – e.g. the NUT Scholarship and NEC responsibilities for Medical and Nursing students.
6. That the newly formed 'Arts Group' (collection of Students' Unions of Arts institutions and institutions with affiliated arts colleges) is a positive step in the struggle for a better deal for arts students. That policy on small and specialist unions has been passed before.
7. That the NUS strategic plan 2008-10 mentions in section 3.4 that supporting unions from small and specialist colleges is a key aim in terms of union development.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That this policy has never been fully enacted by the NEC and that the objectives stated in the strategic plan have not been properly met.
2. That the mandating of a particular member of the block of 15 to deal with policy and strategy specifically related to unions from small and specialist colleges would increase the likelihood that policy gets enacted and that small unions are communicated with despite their relatively small funding and voting power within the NUS
3. That the special needs of many students' union's from small and specialist colleges are not properly taken into account in much of NUS' policy and training.
4. That this happens because many officers from these unions cannot afford and/or don't find the large summer training events relevant and thus they don't engage in the NUS throughout the year.
5. That NUS fails to properly grant access to officers and activists of these unions, despite the fact that they are eager to engage in, and can contribute to, the NUS.
6. That Arts Students make up a significant proportion of the HE/FE sector, with HESA stats stating that in 2006/07 there were 160,525 students enrolled on creative arts and design courses."

Conference Resolves:

1. That a member of the block of 15 should be given special responsibility for small and specialist college unions in the same way that policy zones are distributed amongst the NEC
2. That this person should work with the VP Union Development to liaise with unions from small and specialist colleges, support them, and make sure that policy passed is enacted.
3. To add a new NEC Responsibility of Arts Students Representation to be allocated to a member of the NEC each year.
4. To investigate a system of bursaries and/or pricing structures for small and specialist college unions with restricted budgets with the aim to improve access and involvement within the NUS.
5. To critically evaluate the relevance of all NUS events (particularly training events) for these unions, and that this evaluation should be initiated by way of a national consultation with unions from small and specialist colleges.
6. To mandate the NUS to ensure that it takes responsibility for supporting unions from small and specialist colleges.
7. To work with the TUC to investigate trade union engagement for arts students and graduates, and to campaign on the issue of large-scale unpaid and low paid work that arts graduates are forced to undertake.

**Motion:** 505  
**Heading:** Student Activities Development  
**Submitted by:** Loughborough University, University of West of England (UWE)

**Speech for:** UWE (2 mins)

Conference Believes

1. Student Activities is an important and often under-valued way of engaging with students.
2. Many qualities within student activities such as organisation, team spirit, collectivism, engagement can be of huge benefit to the wider student community including campaigns.
3. More work should be done to network and integrate student activities into the wider student community.
4. Participation in student activities often goes unrecognised by many Student Unions and NUS; however good practice should be better circulated and shared.
5. Student Activities, including RAG, volunteering, media, sport, societies are key to the students and engagement within Students' Union's
6. The largest area of student engagement in NUS is in the realm of student activities
7. The withdrawal of the NUS 'STADIA' network has led to a decrease in NUS's work regarding student activities.

Conference Further Believes

1. Those involved in Student Activities are often cast with negative types in the student movement such as being apolitical.
2. Student activities officers often feel alienated by NUS

3. Issues relating to student activities often get bypassed and ignored by NUS

Conference Resolves:

1. That the NUS re-evaluate and extend its training and support provision for those involved in student activities in both HE and FE unions.
2. NUS works closer with other organisations involved in students activities (e.g. BUCS, AMSU)
3. More work is done by NUS to consider how existing networks of student activities can be better integrated into the campaigning activity of NUS, including but not limited to the Activist Academy model.
4. NUS to provide a proper forum to bring together Student Activities officers to network together either virtually or face-to-face.

**Amendment:** 505a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Open University Access to NUS HE Unions Sports Clubs and Societies  
**Submitted by:** Leeds University Union

**Speech for:** Leeds University Union (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Leeds University Union (1 min)

Conference believes:-

1. Mature and part-time students are under-represented in student societies and sports clubs.
2. The Open University has students distributed throughout the country and most of these can be classified as mature and part-time.
3. Open University Student Association societies tend to have activities concentrated in one city per region.
4. There are many HE Student Unions within each region.
5. Most HE Student Unions have a reasonable number of societies and sports clubs.

Conference further believes:-

1. That the focusing of resources on one city per region is unfair on Open University students situated away from the single selected city.
2. That by allowing Open University students to join in with other HE Student Unions societies and sports clubs they could encourage more mature and part-time students to get involved in the HE Student Union's own societies and sports clubs.

Conference resolves:-

1. To allow Open University Student Association members the opportunity to 'adopt' one NUS-affiliated HE Student Union for the purposes of joining in with their societies and sports clubs on a non-competitive basis.

**Amendment:** 505b  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Student Activities Development Volunteering Opportunities and Student Media  
**Submitted by:** York St John's, University of Brighton, University of Portsmouth

**Speech for:** York St John (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Brighton University (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. The cuts to ACF (Active Community Funds) funding and the fact it is no longer ring fenced means student volunteering is being scaled back across the country
2. Students are losing opportunities to volunteer as Universities cut provision and funding to Students' Unions
3. NUS has run several Student Media days this past Academic year
4. Over 160 students have attended these, the majority of which are not sabbatical officers
5. Student media is vital to student development and a Students' Unions communication to its membership
6. Students' Unions are increasingly collaborating around student media, an example being Canterbury Student Radio

Conference Further Believes

1. Volunteering is an integral part of student development, be it in the community or through Students' Union activity
2. NUS has a role to play in promoting the success of Students' Union and the contribution they make to the local community through volunteering

3. NUS should be proactive in organising student media training and interacting with media outlets on campuses
4. NUS must have the relationship with local Unions media to ensure that campaign messages are debated on campuses

Conference Resolves

1. To support Unions to develop new initiatives for student volunteering
2. To lobby Universities to match the ACF funding they used to give Volunteering when funding was ring fenced
3. To encourage collaborative work with Universities and Colleges to ensure there are no cutbacks in Volunteering
4. To make a submission on the Student Volunteering Manifesto, working and encourage Students' Unions to do the same
5. To engage with National Co-ordination Centre for Public Engagement on their research on Student Volunteering highlighting the success of Students' Unions
6. For NUS to run a series of events and training for students involved in media of Students' Unions
7. To support Students' Unions in developing media to generate involvement and participation in the Union and its campaigns
8. To engage with organisations such as National Student Television Association (NASTA), the Student Radio Association (SRA) and build working relationships with them
9. To encourage working relationships between CM's in the same city in relation to student media development, especially between HE and FE Unions

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 506  
**Heading:** Initiations: To Ban or Not to Ban  
**Submitted by:** UWE, Manchester Metropolitan University, UCLAN, Reading University, Surrey, Swansea Metropolitan University, Leeds Metropolitan University

**Speech for:** UCLAN (2 mins)

Conference Believes

1. Student Activities are key to an active Union and student development.
2. Students' Union need support not condemnation from the NUS
3. These ceremonies are commonly associated with athletic unions and often promoted as compulsory activities for students wishing to join sports teams.
4. Initiation ceremonies often promote excessive drinking and anti-social behaviour.
5. Initiation ceremonies often feature excessive peer pressure, leading to students participating in degrading and irresponsible activities.
6. Initiation ceremonies exclude students who do not want to participate in sessions that promote excessive drinking and/or irresponsible behaviour
7. Initiation ceremonies can deter students from joining sports teams, when students' unions should be promoting healthy living and wider student involvement in sport.

Conference Further Believes:

1. The University of Gloucester made headline news in 2008 after the BBC obtained footage of student initiation ceremonies, featuring participants with bags over their heads, drinking excessively and then vomiting.
2. In 2003, 18-year-old Alex Doji choked on his own vomit and died as a result of a rugby club initiation ceremony at Staffordshire University.
3. In 2006, 18-year-old Gavin Britton died after attending a golf initiation ceremony at Exeter University.
4. In a survey of students at Southampton commissioned by the university, 22% reported acts of physical abuse during initiations and a further 14% encountered sexual abuse. Some 80% of those questioned said that they weren't able to opt out of the ceremony.
5. The research found that just under a quarter of students surveyed had taken part in an initiation - despite a university ban on the practice.
6. Students' unions across the UK have chosen to ban initiation ceremonies, while some have introduced policies that regulate the time, location and content of initiation ceremonies.
7. Some students' unions believe that initiation ceremonies should be banned outright, because allowing them to happen would be seen as an endorsement of such activities.
8. Other students' unions wish to regulate initiation ceremonies, fearing that an outright ban would drive initiations underground, resulting in increasingly dangerous practices.
9. NUS currently opposes initiation ceremonies and should continue to do so.

## Conference Resolves

1. That NUS should create a best practice guide to assist officers on the issue of initiations including ways to monitor/deal with initiations and how to educate students on the danger of alcohol fuelled initiations.
2. That the training programme for Student Activities Officers should include guidance on initiations and space for discussion.
3. That this guide should include input from work with British Universities and Colleges Sport, the NUS, Student Union Officers and Student Union staff
4. This guide should aid and support students' unions that wish to either ban or regulate initiations.

**Amendment:** 506a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Accessible Activities  
**Submitted by:** Swansea Metropolitan

**Speech For:** Swansea Metropolitan (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Swansea Metropolitan (1 min)

## Conference Believes:

1. All students should be able to take part in sports and activities
2. Students' unions should be committed to ensuring that their activities are accessible for all.
3. Alcohol based activities are inaccessible for students under the age of 18, students from certain religious groups, and those who choose not to drink or who cannot drink alcohol due to medical circumstances.
4. SU activities officers and athletic union officers should be encouraging healthy living through the promotion of sports and other activities
5. Excessive consumption of alcohol is a prime example of unhealthy living

## Conference Further Believes:

1. Involvement in student activities can develop non-academic skills, which can be highly valuable when entering employment after graduation.
2. Student activities can provide an outlet for students to develop their social skills and ability to work in a team.
3. Student activities are an excellent way to promote exercise and healthy living within student populations renowned for unhealthy lifestyles.
4. Initiations can prevent students from accessing sports and activities because they do not want to take part in such ceremonies

## Conference Resolves:

1. For the VP Union Development to work with the VP Welfare to encourage unions to promote healthy living and sensible drinking when participating in student activities
2. To encourage unions to ensure that union sports and activities are free from discriminatory or offensive activities.
3. To support CMs to promote safe, accessible student activities and to endorse equal opportunities for all.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 507  
**Heading:** Safe Space is a Right Not Just a Privilege  
**Submitted by:** Birkbeck College, King's College London Students' Union

**Speech for:** Birkbeck College (2 mins)

## Conference Believes:

1. Annual Conference 2008 passed a clear instruction for the NEC to draw up, with direct input from Liberation Campaigns, a Safe Space Policy which would be binding at all NUS and NUSSL events (Motion 601).

## Conference Further Believes:

1. Despite the NEC having a generic Safe Space Policy in place, it is vital that the NEC carries out mandates made by Conference, one of which is to work on promoting Safe Space and developing Safe Space Policy.
2. Safe Space protects us all, allowing us all to participate in all NUS events, provided that Safe Space is defended and this Policy is enforced.

3. The rise in racism and intimidation would be reduced by the NEC taking an active and decisive leadership role in Safe Space, particularly taking decisive actions against racist incidents within our own National Union.
4. Signs stating "Bring Back Slavery", the use of racist language such as "nigger" on campuses and role plays at training events referring to Black Students as "undesirables" as "there would be an increase in knife crime" must result in these racists being expelled from the Union.
5. The racist BNP feeds off inaction against racism, attacking our Black, LGT and Jewish students particularly and with the NEC's poor leadership recently on Safe Space, the vile BNP will further infiltrate and thrive on our campuses.
6. The persistent mainstreaming of misogyny and objectification of people, especially women through NUS-backed Sub-TV; bullying of and spitting at LGBT delegates; the continuing isolation of mature students in many SU activities; the persistent anti-parent access policies of Unions are all further examples of problems which the NEC has failed to show effective leadership on recently.
7. Worryingly all mandates from the Mature Students Conference have simply been air-brushed from the NEC's radar, notably those directing the NEC's work on democratic events, reform, mature student representation and parents.
8. The main duty of a representative membership organisation is to follow and be bound by the policy decisions of the membership, otherwise confidence is once again lost by the many committed student representatives who are not on a penny a year let alone the generous NEC allowances and expenses paid.
9. The NEC leadership must represent us or resign!

## Conference Resolves:

1. To order the NEC to prioritise the development and implementation of the Safe Space Policy.
2. Racism in all its forms and Racists themselves are expelled from NUS.
3. Anti-Racist and Anti-Fascist ideals are written into the trustee board code of conduct.

**Amendment****507a****ADD AMENDMENT****Heading:****Impact on Equality Assessment****Submitted by:****University of Birmingham Guild of Students,  
Northumbria Students' Union****Speech for:****Birmingham Guild of Students (2 mins)****Speech against:****Free (2 mins)****Summation:****Northumbria (1 min)**

## Conference Believes:

1. Under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act (RR(A)A) further and higher education institutions are legally required to conduct Equality Impact Assessments to identify the impact of their policies on students of different racial groups.
2. Equality Impact Assessments are a vital tool to ensure that policies or procedures which discriminate against groups of students are identified and changed.
3. As an organisation committed to equality and diversity, it would be good practice for NUS to conduct an Equality Impact Assessment on its policies and procedures, particularly when making fundamental changes to its governance structures.
4. The NUS Black Students' Committee and LGBT Committee have called for an Equality Impact Assessment to be conducted on the proposed new Constitution.

## Conference Resolves:

5. To commission an independent Equality Impact Assessment to identify the impact of the proposed new Constitution, and the process of discussing and adopting this Constitution, on Black Students, Disabled Students, LGBTQ Students, caring responsibilities, mature, part time, collaborative venture and distance learners and Female Students.
6. To ensure that the elected representatives of Black, Mature, Part-time Disabled, LGBT And Women students are involved in this process.
7. To help Unions under the NUS to adopt Equality Impact Assessments for the further development of their Union and its members

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 508  
**Heading:** Preserving Autonomy of Students Unions and Societies  
**Submitted by:** Hull University, SOAS, Queen Mary (University of London), University of Sheffield, Nottingham University

**Speech For:** Queen Mary's University of London (2 mins)

Conference Believes:

1. Various student societies are formed and run under the banner of their Students' Union, including Islamic Societies, whilst remaining student run and autonomous
2. Last year, conference passed motion 601 affirming their support for student autonomy by opposing measures that unfairly stigmatises or restricts the legitimate activities of any groups of students
3. HM Department of Communities and Local Government have set up schemes that aim to train and then recruit Muslim Chaplains into public services and institutions including universities
4. We live in a democratic society where legitimate freedom of expression, speech and debate is a core part of our identity
5. In an MI5 report on extremism, reported by the Guardian, MI5 highlighted that those involved in extremist activities tend to lack a firm understanding of their faith.
6. There have been a growing number of concerns by Islamic societies around the UK on their autonomy being violated by university staff and, in particular, their university's chaplain(s).

Conference Further Believes:

1. Universities recruiting chaplains from a variety of backgrounds is a positive step towards ensuring the various student communities receive much needed individual support
2. However student activity on campus should remain student-led and student run
3. Any involvement from university staff should not jeopardise the autonomy of the Islamic societies and should be on a purely supportive and consultancy role
4. Islamic societies are vital in facilitating much needed debate and in teaching their members the proper understanding of Islam ensuring any extremist ideology is challenged and driven off campus
5. The role of a chaplain, like other student services, is to provide one-to-one pastoral support and care when requested
6. The autonomy and independence of Islamic Societies, like other student societies, is fundamental in enabling them do carry out their much needed role on campus, ensuring their students are properly represented and have an enjoyable student experience

Conference Resolves:

1. To continue supporting the autonomy of Student Unions and their student societies throughout the UK & EIRE
2. To campaign, wherever any student societies have their autonomy violated, for their liberation consulting with the relevant bodies and organisations
3. To write to the DCLG, DIUS, ECU, UCU, vice-chancellors and university chaplaincy services affirming NUS' support for the autonomy of Islamic societies and for university chaplaincy services to remain one of individual pastoral support and care

**Amendment:** 508a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Religion and Students' Union – UCCF and Equal Opportunities  
**Submitted by:** University of Exeter, Northumbria University

**Speech For:** University of Exeter (2 mins)  
**Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Northumbria University (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. Religious Societies are important to students.
2. There are contradictory viewpoints on the moral and legal rights of student Universities and Colleges Christian Foundation (UCCF) Christian Unions (CU's) – see The Legal Rights of Student Christian Unions, by Julian Rivers and Mark Shaw QC's Adjudication between the Christian Union and Exeter Students' Guild.
3. UCCF CU's do not represent the broad spectrum of Christianity in practice and aims.

4. UCCF CU's promote the violation of Union equal opportunities policies by enforcing the signing of a "statement of faith" and "doctrinal basis".
5. UCCF CU's promote the violation of Union equal opportunities policies by curtailing democratic election in favour of committee selection by prayer.
6. Exeter Students' Guild has been sued on behalf of the Evangelical Christian Union (ECU) three times to defend this practice and failed.
7. All other religious societies at Exeter have been surveyed and witnessed to neither enforce contractual obligation to membership or curtailment of democratic election.

**Conference Further Believes**

1. The actions of Exeter ECU supported by the UCCF in October 2008 to try and abolish the Guild's equal opportunities policy was a dangerous attack on the foundations of the student movement.
2. At a Guild GM 817 members rejected the motion to enforce society discrimination of membership by sex, sexuality, race, national origin and belief by a majority of 770+, one of the largest GM's on record.
3. Unions at Universities such as Hull, Edinburgh and Birmingham have also suffered due to UCCF anti-democratic guidelines to breaking equal opportunities.
4. Equal opportunities policy and democracy are the backbone of the Union movement.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. The Strong and Active Union Zone to engage with UCCF and other faith based organisations on reconciling the issues between students' unions and UCCF supported Christian unions and other faith based societies/organsations.
2. To produce a joint best practice guide and distribute it to the membership.
3. If a joint guide can not be agreed on, NUS must publish the details of the discussions and why the project was unable to begin/break down.
4. If a joint guide can not be agreed on, NUS must reinforce it's commitment to Equal opportunities, producing guidelines for surveying Christian Unions for equal opportunities abidance and resolution.
5. If a joint guide can not be agreed on, NUS must lobby the UCCF to stop curtailing equal opportunities and democracy.
6. For NUS to provide a faith based events calendar by September annually, so CMs are aware of how to support students and develop their own events.

**Amendment: 508b**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading: Racism in Education**  
**Submitted by: London South Bank University**  
**Speech For: London South Bank University (2 mins)**  
**Speech against: Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation: London South Bank University (1 min)**

**Conference Believes:**

1. Racism is rising across society, endangering all Black and Jewish students.
2. Our diverse campuses show the success of multiculturalism, and disprove claims by some politicians and journalists that multiculturalism has failed.
3. Many colleges and universities fail to comply with the Race Relations (Amendment) Act requirement to promote racial equality.
4. NUS events should be safe and inclusive for all. Incidents at NUS events, including an officer implying a link between widening participation from the Black community and increasing violent crime, and lack of alcohol-free venues, must never reoccur.

**Conference Resolves:**

1. Support One Campus Many Culture initiatives, organised by the NUS Black Students' Campaign and Student Assembly Against Racism, which celebrate our diverse, multicultural campuses.
2. Defend students right to religious and cultural freedoms, including the right to choose religious dress or religious symbols.
3. Work with the Black Students' Campaign to ensure universities comply with the Race Relations (Amendment) Act.
4. Review NUS' equal opportunities and safe space policies to ensure effective action is taken if policies are violated, and ensure events are accessible to all.

**Speech Against: Free (1 min)**  
**Summation: (1 min)**

**Motion:** 509  
**Heading:** Commercial Services Decline  
**Submitted by:** Northumbria University (2 mins)

**Speech for:** Northumbria University (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That the last few years have seen commercial operations in Students' Unions suffer
2. That many Unions rely on commercial services as a significant source of income to fund other activities and services
3. That universities across the UK have expressed an interest in taking control of Unions' commercial services
4. That external companies have expressed an interest in taking control of Unions' commercial services

Conference Further Believes:

1. That welfare issues surrounding sale of alcohol would be difficult to manage if a union did not control its own commercial services
2. That union activities and operations should be run by students for students, including commercial services
3. That where unions do not control commercial services, their strength and impact on the student experience is vastly hindered

Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the National Executive to issue a memorandum of understanding to universities supporting the case for unions running commercial services
2. To support unions who no longer run commercial services in getting joint management so that students have a voice on commercial services
3. NUS Services provides student officer focused materials on managing commercial services
4. NUS Services undertakes research to show the relationship between student experience and commercial services in universities and colleges
5. VP Union Development will produce a strategy for students' unions to develop their commercial services.

**Amendment** 509a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Commercial Services Decline  
**Submitted by:** National Executive Committee, Peterborough Regional College, Dunstable College, Goldsmiths, Staffordshire University, Middlesex University, Cranfield University

**Speech for:** NEC (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Middlesex (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Private companies are increasingly taking over services within Students' Unions and Universities, examples are Sodexo and Scholarest
2. We are seeing our University halls, nurseries, canteens and bars sold off to companies only interested in making a profit from students
3. Students are concerned by the quality of service they receive and these are chances to get them campaigning and active within our Unions
4. Students from smaller SUs rarely are allowed to engage with the tendering process for the companies on their campuses.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Students should have input into how services are run
2. That prices increase and the quality and choice is lessened by private companies running these services
3. Unions have campaigned against these university service privatisations on campus and won, examples are LSE and Exeter nurseries, SOAS' Justice for Cleaners campaign
4. Many catering companies are good at marketing and equally good at ignoring institutions and students when concerns are raised regarding issues of price and choice.

Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the VP Union Development to support Unions in campaigning against the selling off of university and college services to private companies, including halls, nurseries and commercial services
2. To produce a campaign guide using examples of where Unions have forced private companies out of their university and college, including case studies and how it was achieved and how they got students involved

3. To support initiatives like “public services not private profit” and the “People before Profit Charter” where students can get directly involved in campaigns defending our rights. To support the “Public Services not Private Profit” Campaign
4. To work alongside Trade Unions on campus, ensuring joint campaign work on initiatives such as ‘Justice for Cleaners
5. For NUS to work with Students’ Unions to change the practices of catering services on their campuses.
6. For NUS to support SUs that wish to be involved with the tendering process of commercial services on campus.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 510  
**Heading:** Ethical NUSSL: Not Abandoning Our Ideals  
**Submitted by:** Manchester University  
**Speech for:** Manchester University (2 mins)

Conference Believes:

1. The work of the CORE (Corporate Responsibility) Coalition and the Trade Justice Movement, in calling for stricter company law regarding ethics and the environment,

Conference Further Believes:

2. That the NUS has a duty to take a moral stance and encourage corporations to behave more responsibly, and that consumer boycotts, ethical investment, implementing a Sustainable and Ethical Business Code, and joining the CORE Coalition are peaceful and effective ways of doing this.

Conference Resolves:

3. To implement the following Sustainable and Ethical Business Code for use in NUSSL’s business decisions/NUS operations:
  - a. That, where available, Fairtrade products will be provided in place of non-Fairtrade;
  - b. That renewable energy will be used;
  - c. That companies, and their subsidiaries, that are invested in or procured from must:
  - d. Allow unhindered trade union participation of their workforce;
  - e. Be free of child, sweatshop, forced and slave labour;
  - f. Have anti-discrimination policies relating to ethnicity, religion, sex, sexuality, age and disability;
  - g. Not be contributing to the worsening of lives through abuse of market power and/or advertising;
4. That moves will be taken to empower any student to bring any concern of violations of the above Code to the NUSSL Board;
5. That the NUSSL Board will report back on the implementation of this policy to Conference annually;
6. To boycott any companies that fail to meet the requirements of the Code;
7. For the NUSSL Board to inform the company of why they fail to satisfy the Code;
8. To encourage constituent Unions to apply the above code and boycott any company or product deemed to breach it;
9. For the NUS to join the CORE Coalition and the Trade Justice Movement;

**Amendment** 510a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Equality within NUS Extra, Boycott McDiscount  
**Submitted by:** Worcester College of Technology, Castle College Nottingham  
**Speech for:** Worcester College of Technology (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** NEC (2 mins)  
**Speech for:** Worcester College of Technology (1.5 mins)  
**Speech against:** Kings College London (1.5 mins)  
**Speech for:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Summation:** Castle College Nottingham (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That every student should be equal regardless of whether they are in FE or HE.
2. That NUS Extra helps thousands of students all over the country with saving money.
3. That NUS Extra also brings in a large amount of income for Students Unions across the country.
4. McDonalds offers various discounts on their food when an NUS Extra card is shown.

5. McDonalds is listed on nus.org.uk as a store that gives discounts for NUS Extra.
6. NUS' Ethical Statement under Campaigning states that "NUS...will highlight injustice" and under Our Ethos states that "Students' Unions and NUS have a long history of campaigning for change, focussing attention on the ethics of particular companies, ensuring injustices are addressed."
7. McDonalds is one of the several giant corporations with investments in vast tracts of land in poor countries, evicting the small farmers that live there growing food for their own people.

#### Conference Further Believes

1. That in reality not every student is equal and it is the duty of NUS to help correct this.
2. That there are legal restrictions where students may not be able to take advantage of the discounts offered by NUS e.g. the age limit on alcohol and that these should not stop NUS from getting those discounts
3. That students are not able to get certain NUS Extra discounts or any good or service offered in conjunction with an NUS Extra card because of being FE or HE, this disadvantages students and creates inequality within the student movement
4. That NUS extra is offered in conjunction with offers only available to HE students.
5. The "fake" food sold by McDonalds encourages over-eating that can make people develop a kind of addiction/craving.
6. This means more profit for McDonalds, but clogged arteries and heart attacks for consumers.
7. By offering a discount for McDonalds' food to students, NUS is not adhering to or promoting Healthy Living or ethical trading.
8. NUS should reflect the Healthy FE Framework.
9. It is hypocritical of NUS to promote the welfare of students and then offer discount at a fast food restaurant that has a reputation for being a cause of bad health.

#### Conference resolves

1. That NUS Extra discounts or any good or service offered in conjunction with an NUS Extra card should be available to all students regardless of whether they are in FE or HE.
2. NUSSL to drop McDonalds from the Extra card.
3. NUS should highlight, where possible, the injustices within McDonalds as an employer and a fast-food company.
4. To discourage students to be consumers of McDonalds.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 511  
**Heading:** Funding for a Training and Representation Service in England  
**Submitted by:** Kings College London Students' Union

**Speech for:** Kings College London Students' Union (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Kings College London Students' Union (1 min)

#### Conference Believes:

1. That every educational institution goes through a Quality Assurance Agency Audit
2. That it can be difficult for institutions to keep on top of national developments and instances of best practise
3. That Provision for representatives differs across Educational Institutions in England
4. That the training Students receive within their student Unions is often not recognised by Employers after University.

#### Conference Further Believes:

4. That the Student Participation and Representation Quality Scotland initiative in Scotland shows that a representational service external to educational institutions but available to all, can begin to address some of these problems.
5. That a national service would provide all educational institutions and all students involved in the QAA audits standardised and up to date information.
6. That training provided by a national scheme might be more readily recognised by employees.
7. That institutions and individuals have been calling for provision for a national training and representative service of some form for a number of years.
8. That consideration and research would have to be undertaken to establish the format such a scheme would take to best serve the needs of educational institutions in England.
9. That such a scheme would require funding from a national organisation.

## Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate NUS to look into ways in which a national training and representation service could be provided in England.
2. To mandate NUS UK to work with NUS Scotland to ascertain how the SPARQS system in Scotland works and to consider appropriate structures/ methods of providing a similar service relevant to the needs of educational institutions in England
3. That NUS lobby HEFCE to provide funding to develop and run such a service within England
4. That NUS call on individual unions and Universities UK to lobby individual institutions to allocate part of their HEFCE Funding to such a scheme annually.

**Motion:** 512  
**Heading:** Recognising Talent, Supporting Development  
**Submitted by:** Keele University

**Speech for:** Keele University (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Keele University (1 min)

## Conference Believes:

1. Over 400 student officers attended NUS' Officer Development Program
2. NUS puts a considerable amount of effort towards developing the skills of student officers when they commence their year of office

## Conference Further Believes

1. NUS has a responsibility to ensure that student officers recognise the skills they have, and how best to utilise these skills
2. Every student officer will make a difference to society, so NUS should keep in regular contact with them, and ensure they become advocates of our campaigns and of the student movement

## Conference Resolves

1. Provide an Officer Development Program for every outgoing student officers at towards the end of their term of office. This should support them to:
  - Identify the skills they have developed
  - Recognise career development opportunities
  - To Mandate the convenor of this zone to work with all trade unions who offer student rates, to get these rates extended to student officers.
2. Develop 'Friends of NUS' so that every outgoing student officer is provided with an application pack and becomes a future advocate for the National Union
3. Increase the proportion of student officers who are members of trade unions
4. Increase awareness within trade unions of the number of student officers of today who are trade union leaders of tomorrow

Zone	Education
<b>Motion:</b>	<b>601</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>Supporting students in the recession</b>
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Coventry University, University of Plymouth, Birmingham Guild, University of Bristol and Edinburgh University</b>
<b>Speech for:</b>	<b>Bristol University (2 mins)</b>
<b>Speech Against:</b>	<b>Free (2 mins)</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>University of Plymouth (1 min)</b>

Conference Believes:

1. That the onset of recession is having a detrimental effect on public finances and on the careers prospects of young people leaving school or college and those who have lost their jobs as a result of the economic downturn.
2. That the recession is likely to have a direct impact on many students' finances: as family finances suffer, so will students' finances.
3. Changing employment market and labour market trends could limit the availability of, and competition for, jobs normally undertaken by students to support themselves through university or college.
4. The 'Student Price Index' published by the Open University reveals that students face a higher level of inflation than the average consumer due to rising accommodation, food and energy costs.
5. That this situation will have been exacerbated by the government's decision to claw back the grant, they rightly expanded to students on lower middle incomes, as a result of a miscalculation of entitlements.
6. That while record numbers of students are now eligible for a full grant, which is welcome, more must be done to alleviate hardship amongst students from lower middle income families.
7. That while many students face hardship, some universities are cutting their bursary allocations.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That UCAS admissions data for 2009 entry reveals a record number of applications of more than 430,000, including a substantial increase in the number of mature applicants.
2. That, while the government has increased the number of places available for 2009 entry by 10,000, many university vice-chancellors are warning that the number of funded places available will be unable to meet demand.
3. The government was right to set a target for 50% participation in HE amongst young people, but unless it takes urgent action this target will never be met.
4. While some may argue that we need less graduates in a downturn, providing additional places will help prepare these students and the country for the economic upturn.
5. That while funding additional places may place pressure on public finances, the cost will be far less than shouldering the consequences of long term unemployment later on.
6. It is unacceptable to raise aspirations amongst potential applicants, only to deny them a place later.

Conference Believes:

7. That students graduating this year will do so with record levels of debt, in excess of £20,000 on average, due to the introduction of top-up fees in 2006.
8. That the Association of Graduate Recruiters has warned that students graduating this year face a hostile employment market; because of the recession, the number of graduate vacancies is set to fall for the first time in five years and many major graduate employers will be forced to cut pay or freeze wages.
9. That many graduates have already lost their jobs as a result of cut backs and redundancies.
10. That while graduates do not have to pay back their student loans while they are earning less than £15,000, this will provide little comfort to those saddled with debts that they hope to pay off as soon as possible.
11. That the current economic climate, as well as the evidenced variation in graduate pay according to the type of institution and course attended, highlights the futility of the current market driven variable fees system; we must all learn the lessons of building an economy dependent on debt.
12. That NUS should continue to work with government to soften the blow for graduates this summer.

Conference Resolves

1. To work with students' unions to monitor the impact of the recession on the availability of students jobs and levels of student hardship.
2. To campaign for grant entitlements to be extended to those who need them and to address this issue as part of NUS' submission to the 2009 review.
3. To oppose attempts by universities to cut funding for university bursaries and demand that bursaries are better publicised.
4. To call on government to fund an urgent expansion in the number of university places available and an increase in the student support budget to meet the additional demand.

5. NUS to work with government, employers' representatives and career services, to provide additional support, initiatives, information and guidance to assist graduates leaving university this summer.

**Motion:** 602  
**Heading:** CALL – Campaign Alliance for Lifelong Learning  
**Submitted:** City College Norwich, Glasgow Metropolitan College, National Executive Committee

**Speech For:** NEC (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** City College Norwich (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Post 16 education is becoming a market
2. At Annual Conference 2008, a motion was passed which called for: "NUS to build a national coalition with NIACE and relevant trade unions campaigning for a properly funded adult education and ESOL system"
3. In July 2008 NUS, with NIACE, UNISON, UCU and WEA founded "CALL"- Campaign Alliance for Life-long Learning
4. Since founding, over 150 organisations have affiliated to CALL (see <http://www.callcampaign.org.uk/> for list)
5. As part of ongoing NUS actions, a lobby of parliament was co-ordinated by CALL on 25 February 2009, gaining momentum to demand Government change the funding system for Further Education
6. An EDM (533) was put down for CALL, in its first 2 weeks, over 75 MP's had signed it

Conference Further Believes:

1. The entire country has been destabilised by the economic lurch
2. The recession causes redundancies, so fewer job opportunities are created, so more individuals will be out of work
3. The cap on a free level 3 up to 25 years old prevent individuals to be able to requalify, denying millions the opportunity to build a new, stronger, worker led economy
4. Informal adult education is a vital stepping stone for those who have been out of education giving people knowledge, skills and confidence

Conference Resolves:

1. For the "CALL Campaign" to be the FE Zone's priority campaign for the year 09-10
2. The CALL Campaign will feature in our Student Manifesto for the General Election

**Motion:** 603  
**Heading:** ULN. Got Your Number!  
**Submitted by:** City College Plymouth

**Speech For:** City College Plymouth (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** City College Plymouth (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. The Unique Learner Number (ULN) is a randomly-generated 10 digit number unique to each student; it will be used to access a student's Individual Learner Record (ILR), which builds a lifelong record of a student's learning participation and achievements
2. Though currently in trials, the intention is that the ILR will be given to all 14 year olds in UK education. All those now taking the new Diploma and QCF qualifications have them.
3. Adults who return to education will be required to obtain a ULN and must provide two forms of "recognised" ID
4. The government argue the ILR "will improve the flow of information about learners from schools to other education providers, and ultimately employers"
5. The ILR will hold the following info: DOB, sex, address, course history (including modules, retakes, and grades) and qualifications

Conference Further Believes:

1. People with a ULN will not be able to fully control who has access to their information
2. The ULN and ILR will make education less accessible for adults returning to education
3. The ILR does not record any special or mitigating circumstances, so may not be a fair representation of a student's achievements

4. Despite an opt-out option for sharing some data, students may be pressured to release information that they would otherwise keep confidential due to its availability on the ILR.
5. Additionally, a learner must consent to access publicly-funded education from 14 onwards so there is no meaningful way to opt out.
6. The accessibility of this data for providers and employers puts a risk the right to anonymity that is vital for equality.
7. The implementation of this project is being rushed without clear benefits for the learner.

Conference Resolves:

1. Lobby the government to ensure that no student is disproportionately affected or discriminated against because of their learner record
2. Lobby the government to ensure that there are clear regulated outlines on who can access the ILR and for what purpose, and that students must grant explicit permission for any individual or organisation to do so.
3. For the VP FE to establish a group from the NEC to produce comprehensive briefing for students on the ILR
4. For the VP to return to Annual Conference 09 with an update on the progress of their work on the ILR rollout.

**Motion:** 604  
**Heading:** Postgraduate Study  
**Submitted by:** Kent Union, Liverpool Guild, University of Bristol

**Speech For:** Liverpool Guild (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** University of Bristol (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That the postgraduate student experience is too often ignored by NUS.
2. That according to research published by NUS, only 27% of final year undergraduates intend to proceed to further study.
3. That the home student postgraduate population is shrinking and institutions are becoming more heavily dependent on international students to fill places.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That opportunities for PG students to seek funding for arts and humanities subjects are scarce and forcing students into either greater debt or out of studying altogether.
2. That PhD students regularly take longer than the expected 3 years to complete, causing greater financial uncertainty and in many cases visa complications for international students.
3. That PG's are regularly relied upon for undergraduate teaching; while this is not necessarily bad, in too many cases PG's do not receive the training and remuneration they deserve and an over-reliance on PG teaching causes difficulties for undergraduates.
4. The postgraduate admissions system is too complex and is in need of professionalisation.

Conference Resolves:

1. To call for a full review of postgraduate fees, funding and student support by government.
2. To call on HEI's to more transparently advertise the expected length of their PhD's.
3. To press for a review of postgraduate admissions and for institutions to sign up to UKPASS, the PG admissions service provided by UCAS.
4. To research the experience of PG's who teach and to publicise the 'Postgraduates that Teach' charter published by NUS, UCU and NPC.

**Motion:** 605  
**Heading:** Arts Education funding and Hidden Course costs  
**Submitted by:** University of the Arts London, UWE, Courtauld Institute, Rose Bruford and Loughborough  
**Speech for:** Loughborough (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** University of the Arts London (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. On average, Arts students have the lowest graduate premium, leaving them the worst off in comparison to other graduates.
2. Arts graduates are expected to undertake unpaid work on a massive scale and for a number of years after completing a qualification.
3. Most students need to undertake foundation diploma courses in order to access Higher Education in the Arts.
1. Provisions for bursary support for foundation diploma students has fallen in the last three years. In Loughborough the 2006 -2007 figure was £3745 and in 2008-2009 it was £3436,
2. Many Art and Design courses have higher upfront material costs and hidden course costs than other courses.

Conference further believe:

1. That a graduate market of largely unpaid or low paid work is extremely prohibitive for most people to take part in, stay in, and succeed in and is unacceptable at current levels.
2. Despite uniquely high costs associated with studying, neither arts students or institutions get distinct funding arrangements.
3. Inflation and living costs have risen dramatically in recent years and support for students has not risen alongside this.
4. Changes in economic conditions can have a pronounced effect on students, and may prevent their ability to access courses."
5. The combination of high hidden course costs and low graduate income reinforces the idea that the arts are a hobby for the elite rather than an important part of society that should be practiced and accessed by all sections of society.
6. With the current recession money is going to become a lot tighter for students and unless arts courses are looked at, fewer and fewer people will be able to access them.

Conference resolves:

1. To produce an arts specific Hidden Course Costs pack for Students' Unions to use in campaigning.
2. NUS to undertake work looking at the financial support provision for students involved in further education based art and design foundation diploma courses. . The work will include liaising with the LSC and other relevant government bodies.

**Motion:** 606  
**Heading:** Stop Ripping Off Those on ALG and EMA  
**Submitted by:** Exeter College  
**Speech For:** Exeter College (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Dunstable College (2 mins)  
**Speech for:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Summation:** Exeter College (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) was launched in 2004, and The Adult Learning Grant (ALG) was launched in 2007
2. EMA and ALG have not risen in line with inflation since they were launched, which has meant they have declined in value in real terms by 14%
3. The Government announced in its green paper 'Staying in Education and Training Post-16' that EMA's may be reformed or scrapped altogether
4. In NUS' "EMA Satisfaction Survey 08", 61% of recipients, when asked if they could continue to study without it, saying they could not. Also, 40% of the poorest learners said the EMA was not enough to cover their essential costs, and were therefore more likely to use commercial debt
5. There is no universal financial support package or strategy to reduce the cost of travel for students in Further Education

6. Because of the education leaving age, many young people will be going into Further Education who would not have done previously

Conference further believes:

1. With the raise in the education and leaving age, and introduction of 14-19 diplomas, under 19's will be travelling much greater distances to study
2. Students rely on EMA and ALG as a vital source of financial support
3. There is very poor information about, and access to, the financial support available to students
4. A growing diversity of young people in further education is positive, but needs to be backed up with increased financial support from government

Conference resolves:

1. Lobby the government for a full review of the FE Financial Support landscape
2. Lobby the government to take urgent action to improve Information Advice and Guidance to ensure students are able to receive impartial, quality advice
3. Defend EMA and ALG from any future cuts
4. Lobby the government for an increase in the EMA and ALG grant- for it to immediately rise in line with inflation and be linked to the Retail Price Index, and for the EMA to rise to realistically cover the costs of further education
5. Lobby the government to introduce a national "right to learn, right to travel" concessionary travel scheme for all learners entitled to a Government funded level two or three qualification.
6. NUS to raise awareness within the government and public at large realities of student poverty.
7. To lobby the government to provide increased education funding as more people who are unable to find jobs go into or return to education.

**Motion:** 607  
**Heading:** The Student Experience  
**Submitted by:** University of Portsmouth, Swansea Metropolitan University, Keele.

**Speech For:** Leeds Metropolitan University (2 mins)

Conference Believes

1. It is entirely fair that all students in UK higher education receive world-class academic provision
2. Although the National Student Survey for final year undergraduates would indicate that overall satisfaction is relatively high (82%) , there are still inconsistencies across the sector, room for improvement and particular areas for specific targeted improvement
3. Assessment and feedback continues to be the area of greatest dissatisfaction amongst undergraduates in the NSS (64%) , detailed research from NUS echoes a similar experience for postgraduate students too.
4. The quantity and quality of contact time across the sector is also very mixed, with experiences for different groups of students across the sector.
5. Access, availability, consistency and quality to a high quality personal tutor system is often varied within an institution, and there is certainly a mixed picture across the sector.
6. A number of Student Unions have run campaigns to try and raise the profile and standard of personal tutoring in their respective institutions.
7. The academic induction process is hugely varied across the sector. International students in particular require a supported and targeted induction which is not always present
8. As it stands the education system simply reproduces social inequality within society offering little chance for the individual to succeed should their personal circumstances mean they come from a lower socio-economic background.
9. That with the review of fees in 2009 the National Union must come from a principled position drawing detailed conclusions from a systematic review of the entire education system as opposed to review of the economic model alone.
10. The publication of a ground breaking report by NUS on the student experience highlights a range of areas that institutions need to act upon to improve the quality of teaching and learning.
11. The research findings need to be translated into effective campaigns by NUS and students' unions.
12. The research reveals that the majority of students want to be involved in shaping course content.
13. It reveals that too many students do not feel that their feedback is acted on.

Conference Resolves

1. To mandate the Vice-President (Higher Education) to draw together existing research into the current academic provisions in UK HE. Specific work should go into looking at contact hours, personal tutor systems, induction and feedback and assessment.
2. To conduct further research in areas where more information is required

3. To run a national campaign, or series of campaigns in conjunction with Student Unions to raise the profile and standard of academic provision.
4. To campaign for wider opportunities for students to be involved in shaping the design of their course and the way it's delivered.
5. To campaign for institutions to take on board student feedback and report back on how it has been acted upon.
6. To campaign for faster turnaround time on marking and assessment and more opportunities for students to receive verbal feedback.
7. To continue the development of NUS' course reps hub, conferences and events and to press for institutions to ensure that their reps system is properly resourced and supported, but also owned and led by students' unions.
8. To commission a report, drawing on all aspects of the education sector, which deconstructs the education system to analyse why it is failing to enhance students' experience.

**Amendment:**               **607a**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**

**Heading:**                 **Learner Voice, A Valid Voice?**

**Submitted by:**         **City College Plymouth, Castle College Nottingham, Peterborough Regional College**

**Speech For:**             **Peterborough Regional College (2 mins)**

**Speech Against:**       **Dunstable College (2 mins)**

**Speech For:**             **Free (1.5 mins)**

**Speech Against:**       **Free (1.5 mins)**

**Summation:**            **City College Plymouth (1 min)**

1. The National Learner Panel (NLP) was set up in 2006 by the Government. It is funded by DIUS and run by the Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS) It comprises of 18 members, picked by the department through written applications and telephone interviews, with two ex-officio places for NUS
2. NLP's tag line is "NLP, giving learners a voice at a national level"
3. Budget for the NLP per year is £250,000
4. In early 2008, NLP members were helped by DIUS with their applications to local and national learner positions on Learning and Skills Councils
5. Regardless pressure from NUS, DIUS, DCSF and their QUANGOs have refused to create their own 'Learner Involvement Strategies' (LIS), a document which all FE institutions must have
6. The NLP is not the only Government created and funded student consultation group, there is also the NSF (National Student Forum) for HE and the proposed 14-19 Panel by the DCSF.
7. The 14-19 panel was created out of the back of poor interest and uptake in the new 14-19 diplomas. The Government had expected a 50,000 take up in the first year, whereas only 12,000 students took them up.
8. The 14-19 panel didn't go through a public tender instead DCSF "handed it" to SHM – the contractors for both the NLP and NSF.

#### Conference Further Believes

1. The NLP was created for all of further education. Just because 14-19 provision is now owned by another department (DCSF) compared to post 19 (DIUS), doesn't mean to say that they aren't FE students.
2. It is ridiculous that the Government is creating another panel, when there is already an FE Panel, with under 19's on it.
3. The Government's civil servants shouldn't just create another talking shop every time they get stuck on how to consult students, especially when the NLP alone costs £250,000 for four meetings a year. As members of the NLP are appointed, they only have authority to speak on their own behalf
4. It's very dangerous for the NLP to repeatedly call itself "representative" and "the voice of learners"
5. The NLP is not meaningful learner engagement and is a poor model for the sector to follow.
6. The NLP challenges the legitimacy of NUS as the democratic and representative voice of learners
7. That after 3 years of pressure, DIUS has refused to heed NUS' demands for:
  - NLP to publish a clear role and remit
  - Have an independent chair
  - Have student juries (replicating National Student Forum)
  - Stop unfairly helping NLP members apply for other student representative positions
  - Stop putting NLP members on platforms and calling itself representative

#### Conference Resolves:

1. To oppose the creation of a new 14-19 panel
2. To look to get an MP to get a question tabled in the Houses of Commons to find out why SHM were automatically given the contract, and not expected to bid for it
3. For the VPFE to lobby DIUS, DCSF and all relevant QUANGOs to produce individual LIS to demonstrate how they will meaningfully engage with students

4. For the VPFE to meet with LSIS, outline NUS' demands (CFB6) and ask for this to be resolved before the creation of the next panel in October 2009
5. That if LSIS and DIUS continually refuse to address NUS' concerns, the VP FE will publicly criticise the NLP and refuse to sit on the panel

**Amendment:** 607b  
**ADD AMENDMENT**

**Heading:** IAG

**Submitted by:** Birmingham City Students Union and Richard Huish College

**Speech For:** Richard Huish College (2 mins)

**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)

**Summation:** Birmingham City Student Union (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. IAG doesn't just start when you are a prospective HE student. The choices you make beforehand will affect your chances of accessing HE, should you choose to go into HE
2. Students in the UK start making decisions on their education from 14 years old – e.g. GCSE
3. Informal IAG (i.e. advice from guardians, friends ) has the greatest influence on most individuals, official IAG is a distant second.
4. There is now more information and statistics privately collected on individual institutions, courses and the higher education sector as a whole than ever before.
5. University marketing departments are taking an ever increasing role in trying to disseminate and market their institutions to prospective students
6. Some schools, often in the private sector, are able to employ a dedicated member of staff for careers which is not universally available to all prospective students
7. Increasing numbers of schools provide information, advice and guidance which is heavily skewed toward Oxbridge or the Russell group in order to help make their school look better, rather than considering which institution or course is best for the individual student.
8. It is important that prospective students all have access to the volume, statistics and information they wish to, irrespective of background.

Conference Further believes:

1. Formal IAG should begin as young as 11 years old.
2. An IAG portal cannot be seen as the be all and end all solution. Many students will find the portal inaccessible.
3. The problems with IAG are less about how it is delivered, and more about the quality and credibility of the IAG as it is often conflicting and/or biased and out of date. Quality and quantity of advice needs to be carefully balanced.
4. DIUS, DCSF, DWP currently have separate strategies for IAG, none of which address the problem as a whole. This is ridiculous.
5. The problems with IAG in the UK cannot be fixed overnight

Conference Resolves:

1. To lobby the government to introduce occupational standards for IAG staff
2. To demand the government to create a strategic level IAG working group, from which the Government, NUS and other stakeholders can work to overhaul the landscape of IAG. The group should publish a UK strategy on IAG delivery that addresses formal and informal sources of IAG effectively.
3. To provide equality of information to all prospective students, by lobbying government and other relevant organisations to set up a single central first point portal which will have all relevant information about courses at UK institutions
4. To work with other organisations, such as UCAS, which would have the expertise to help deliver such a portal.
5. For NUS to ensure that the information on the portal is student-focussed and relevant to prospective students
6. Information on the portal could include, and would not be limited to entry requirements, financial support, bursaries, graduate destinations, contact time, curriculum content.

**Amendment:** 607c  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Enhancing Feedback  
**Speech For:** Birmingham Guild (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Birmingham Guild (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. In the 2008 National Student Survey the lowest scoring category was feedback and assessment, with a mean score of 64%.
2. The NUS, along with HSBC, have published an authoritative report on the student experience which highlights a range of areas that institutions need to act upon to improve the quality of teaching and learning.
3. It reveals that too many students do not feel that their voice within the institution is heard.
4. 72% of students want verbal feedback on their work but only 25% receive feedback in this way.
5. 25% of students had to wait 5 or more weeks for assessment on their coursework, which is totally unacceptable.

Conference Resolves:

1. To campaign for representation to be at the heart of every institution. This ensures that students can be involved in shaping the design of their course and the way it's delivered.
2. This is best delivered through an effective course rep scheme which should be at the heart of a students' union.
3. To continue the development of NUS' course reps hub, conferences and events and to press for institutions to ensure that their reps system is properly resources and supported, but also owned and led by the students' union.
4. To campaign for faster turnaround time on marking and assessment and more opportunities for students to receive verbal feedback.

**Amendment:** 607d  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Healthcare Amendment  
**Speech For** King's College London Students' Union (2 mins)  
**Against** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Nottingham (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. At Annual Conference 2008, Conference resolved "To work with Students' Unions and medical students to address where their needs are not being supported or met and to share best practice."
2. The NSS results, have for several years revealed that students are dissatisfied with assessment and feedback standards across the university sector.
3. This problem is most keenly felt in healthcare subjects, which account for some of the lowest scores in assessment and feedback category.
4. Healthcare goes beyond Medicine and Dentistry students, and should be viewed in the broadest sense to also include all courses with an emphasis on clinical teaching, including Physiotherapy, and Nursing & Midwifery.
5. Many of those entrusted to teach healthcare students are not employed by universities, due to the bulk of many courses comprising of clinical placements. This can result in students being taught by healthcare professionals who are not willing, or who simply do not have the time to offer students the attention they need.
6. The government's move to accredit a number of Academic Health Science Centres (AHSCs) across the country is an important move in this area. These centres aim to create closer links between research, teaching and clinical service.
7. The problems continually raised by healthcare students regarding assessments and feedback are a national problem, and need to be treated accordingly.

Conference Further believes:

1. It is the right of all students to be able to have an education while at University on a full time course without it being financially detrimental to them.
2. That healthcare related courses especially physiotherapists and nurses face great financial hardship in undertaking their courses. This is through the current system where the NHS pays for their tuition fees. This means that they are only eligible for a maintenance loan from the Student Loans Company. As a consequence of apply for SLC loans the NHS students automatically get a reduced loan by a substantial

amount (around £1,000 a year) regardless if you have a mean or un-means tested loan. Resulting in roughly £2000 for un-means tested students for the year!

3. That although they can apply for an NHS bursary the threshold for this is much lower than for student loans and many students do not receive them. NHS students are also not eligible for many University grants.
4. An increased number of all students are having to work jobs to support them through university. However time commitment to a healthcare course especially nursing and physiotherapy is prohibitive to supplementing income through a job as they are on placement for long periods of time and work extensive hours.

Conference Resolves:

1. That NUS work with students' unions, the BMA, and other health student governing bodies to research comprehensively the needs of healthcare students across a range of disciplines.
2. Once this research has been collated, NUS draft a series of recommendations and use these to lobby the Department of Health for healthcare students on clinical placements, and provide support for individual students' unions to lobby on this issue at a university and trust level.
3. That NUS conduct research into the impact AHSCs will have on healthcare teaching, both for universities who have such elite centres approved, and also for those who do not.
4. To mandate the NUS to lobby the government to review healthcare funding to provide appropriate support to these students.

**Amendment:**               **607e**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                   **Placement Students**

**Speech For**                   **Sheffield Hallam (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against**           **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation**                 **UWE (1 min)**

Conference Believes:

1. That at Sheffield Hallam, 45% of students are on sandwich courses. A further 5000+ students participate in compulsory work-based learning through courses such as teaching, nursing and social work. A similar picture can be seen in institutions across the UK.
2. Placement and work-based learning provides students with the opportunity to learn in a working environment. This allows students to gain experience of their chosen profession, therefore, enhancing their employability. It also gives them the chance to get a feel for their industry enabling them to make more informed decisions about their career upon graduating.
3. Students on sandwich courses are expected to pay around £600 tuition fees during their placement year.
4. Students who have to participate in work-based learning as part of their course are often subject to hidden course costs such as travel costs, books and equipment. This is exacerbated by the fact that most students can not take on part time jobs whilst they are on placement.
5. Whilst on placement or work-based learning it is common for students to disengage with their union, meaning that they are less likely to take part in extra curricular activities or use their union for support and representation.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That students who take a placement year or participate in work-based learning are entitled to as much support and representation as any other student form both their university and union.
2. That these students encounter a different set of problems to other students including; location of placements, coursework due in whilst on placement, hidden course costs, inability to access learning materials, lack of peer support, lack of tutor support and problems with mentors or line managers. The extent of these problems can only be ascertained through research on a national level.
3. That it is unacceptable for students to pay £600 whilst on their placement year whilst receiving little or no support from university staff.
4. That local unions and the national union should endeavour to reach out to placement students whilst they are away from campus.
5. Placements can effect a wide variety of students on different subjects, and are often differing lengths depending on the arrangements of their own institutions
6. Placements can be hugely beneficial to the overall development for students, however adequate provisions need to be in place to support students during this time.

Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate NUS to conduct research into the problems faced by students on placement and work-based learning.
2. To create and NUS Placement Students' Campaign to address and tackle the problems faced by students on placement and work-based learning.

3. To mandate the Vice President (Higher Education) to provide a briefing to Students' Unions on how to best engage with students whilst on placements including suggestions for appropriate forms of communication which can remain open between the student and the Student Union such as email
4. As part of the Placement Students' Campaign, consider how institutions could provide a targeted form of financial support to students who face hidden costs as a result of placements

**Amendment:**           **607f**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**               **Fair Academic Provision for all**

**Speech For:**           **Swansea Metropolitan University (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against:**      **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**           **Manchester University (1 min)**

Conference Believes:

1. Crucially the quantity and quality of contact time which is received by students is important in supporting students through their learning.
2. The introduction of fees has seen the expectations of students rise.
3. The NUS Student Experience research this year showed that on average students received 15 hours of contact per week (on average 8 hours in lectures).
4. There are, of course, substantial variations by subject, but also by institution and year of study.
5. It is important that contact for students is sufficiently varied, depending on the course and accommodates appropriate lectures, seminars, workshops, personal tutor time and the opportunity for peer to peer.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Whilst the quantity and balance of contact is important, quality is critical too.
2. Contact is taught through a range of academics from experienced professors, senior lecturers to postgraduate students.
3. It is difficult to make generalisations about the quality of contact, with examples of excellent (and poor) practice across the sector.

Conference Resolves:

1. For NUS to continue to campaign against contact hour cuts.
2. To investigate further the most appropriate balance of contact for students.
3. To draw out students best experiences to spread best practice
4. Where appropriate encourage for students to expect a minimum level of contact.
5. To provide a briefing for the Higher Education Academy and other appropriate bodies to ensure that staff training is robust and is including best practice for the best use of contact time.

**Amendment:**           **607g**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**               **Course Reps**

**Speech For:**           **Liverpool Guild (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against:**      **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**           **Liverpool Guild (1 min)**

Conference Believes

1. Course Reps play a vital role in improving the learning experience for fellow students
2. It is vital for the future legitimacy of Students' Unions that they feel comfortable in supporting strong, effective and representative academic structures
3. NUS and Student Unions need also to give suitable consideration to adequate support, reward and recognition for their Course Reps
4. We need to ensure that all sorts of students can be supported in being Course Reps including part-time, distance learners, mature and international students.
5. Course Reps need to be seen as more than just avenues into complaints forums, but also as proactive advocates to improve and enhance provision
6. Sharing of representative academic structures is helpful for driving up overall effectiveness.

Conference Resolves

1. To continue to build upon the work that has begun this year which has seen NUS interact with Course Reps for the first time
2. To become better at informing course reps with appropriate and important national developments, to help them place their course and students in a wider context

3. To be more innovative in the ways in which we can support Course Reps at a local level, including using e-technology and social networking
4. Develop regional or subject-based networks for course reps to interact across the UK
5. To encourage NUS and Student Unions to properly accumulate feedback from their own course reps to inform campaign activity throughout the year

**Amendment:**           **607h**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**             **E-Learning**

**Speech For:**           **Loughborough University (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against:**   **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**         **Leeds Metropolitan (1 min)**

#### Conference Believes

1. The use of modern technology is ever increasing in use within the Higher Education sector
2. Many universities and colleges are reviewing their use of e-mail systems
3. Technology has increased its use within the sector, with many lectures now available online
4. E-Learning includes emails, online resource hubs (including lecture powerpoints, handouts and related resources), podcasts, interactive computer labs etc
5. With ever increasing numbers of students involved in distance learning courses (more or less entirely e-learning based), the need to ensure quality e-learning is paramount

#### Conference Further Believes

1. A handful of universities either have lost their .ac.uk email address or are discussing doing so
2. Since the introduction of 3k fees the demands of the student have been changing and e-learning is a key resource that students use.
3. The increased technology usage has created inequality within academic schools and departments depending on the lecturer concerned and some students are getting an enhanced learning experience
4. E-learning resources can allow students to have greater choice over how their course is delivered
5. E-Learning shouldn't necessarily be seen as a replacement for face to face contact, but should be an additional method of teaching
6. Even leading academics are considering the future of old style lectures as the key tool for teaching. University of Gloucestershire VC Professor Patricia Broadfoot appeared in the Times Higher stating universities have been "backward" in understanding how students learn and how best to teach them
7. That technology enhanced learning is essential if we are to keep up with the pace of change.

#### Conference Resolves

1. NUS to review e-learning activity going on within the sector and produce best practice notes to guide students unions, including investigating .ac.uk email addresses
2. NUS to discuss campaign policy regarding support and teaching methods relating to e-learning.
3. NUS to investigate how e-learning best links into the more traditional teaching methods and communicate this to Student Unions.

**Amendment:**           **607i**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading**               **Degree Classification**  
  
**Speech For**             **University of Surrey (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against**       **University of East Anglia (UEA) (2 mins)**  
**Speech for:**           **Free (1.5 mins)**  
**Speech against:**     **Free (1.5 mins)**  
**Summation**            **University of Surrey (1 mins)**

#### Conference Believes:

1. The Burgess group, chaired by Professor Bob Burgess the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester has led on substantial reports, which have concluded the current system for recording achievement is no longer fit for purpose
2. 59% of students leave higher education with a first class or upper second (2:1) degree
3. The final Burgess group have devised the outline of a Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR) which would provide students with a more detailed record for their time in higher education.
4. The Burgess Implementation Group with representation from the NUS Vice-President (Higher Education) has been formed to help oversee the introduction of the Burgess recommendations across the sector.
5. There are 18 institutions trialling the HEAR in 2008/09 .

Conference Further Believes:

1. With so many graduates having similar degrees, but with vastly different experiences, the degree classification system is not a fair reflection of a students higher education
2. The current degree classification system (first, 2:1, 2:2 etc) is no longer fit for purpose
3. Although more detailed transcripts would help employers, any new system must be focused on the learner, not potential employers.

Conference Resolves:

1. To continue to support the reform of degree classification and cooperate with the HEAR trials across the UK
2. To play an active role in the dissemination of feedback from the HEAR trial
3. To support the roll-out of the HEAR across the higher education sector. To lobby to ensure any new system of recording achievement is easily understood and accessible for students

**Main Motion**

<b>Against</b>	<b>Free (1.5 mins)</b>
<b>For</b>	<b>Free (1.5 mins)</b>
<b>Against</b>	<b>Free (1 mins)</b>
<b>Summation</b>	<b>Property of proposer of the last successful amendment (1 mins)</b>

**Motion:** 608  
**Heading:** Bin the Broke and Broken Funding System  
**Submitted:** Leeds University, Manchester Metropolitan University, NEC, Edinburgh University and University of Plymouth.  
**Speech For:** NEC (2 mins)

Conference Believes:

1. That the forthcoming fees review will be critical in determining the future of the higher education system across the whole of the UK.
2. The analysis of the current system set out in NUS' publication 'Broke and Broken' demonstrates why this system must not be allowed to continue and needs a major overhaul by government.
3. That while some politicians and Some institutions, including members of the Russell Group, are prepared to endorse a Government lifting of the cap on tuition fees, currently standing at £3145.00 per annum for undergraduates.
4. That all students should be free to spend their scholarship and/or bursary on whatever they want.
5. That academic success is related to the ability to provide a means of supporting yourself as well as having access to all the materials (books, equipment etc).
6. That students should be given the tools they need to succeed academically however, they also need financial help in supporting their studies. This may mean working part-time whilst studying.

Conference further believes

1. That while the extra investment of £100m to fund grants for poorer students is welcome, the forthcoming cuts in grants for students whose families earn between £50k-60k is a disgraceful cut that will leave thousands of students in greater hardship.
2. That the UK lags behind other OECD countries in the amount of public money it commits to higher education, currently spending only 0.9% of GDP.
3. That any increase in top-up fees in England will negatively impact on Scottish Institutions and students.
4. If the cap is lifted in England, either:
  - a. There will be a huge influx of English students studying in Scotland, which will make Scottish institutions less accessible, and there will be an even larger funding gap between Scottish and English institutions; or
  - b. Fees, at a similar level to England, will have to be introduced in Scotland to fund universities.
5. That, in consequence, such institutions are prepared to indulge in an educational system which becomes socially exclusive in monetary terms, both from the outset and in consequence, as students who cannot afford the initial expenses attached with coming to university will be further put off by potentially higher fees and those going to university will be left in debt to a greater extent once they have reached the £15,000 pa. wage or salary threshold.
6. That such institutions will seemingly in turn not be focusing as greatly on receiving students to educate them but on the amount they can pay, thereby decreasing the proportion of students at university from the UK or those aided by LEAs.

Conference Resolves.

1. To oppose any increase or lifting of the cap and the marketisation of our education system.

2. To campaign for the expansion of the grants system and a national student support system to ensure that students get support based on what they need, not where they study.
3. To put part-time student funding at the heart of our campaign around the 09 review.
4. To demand NUS representation on the 2009 review group and maximise participation from students in submitting evidence to the review.
5. To coordinate national action throughout the year working with and supporting fully all institutions to rally the greatest amount of student support as possible, to maximise student activism and awareness in the run up to the 2009 review
6. To aid future students at universities nationwide by actively discouraging institutions from such moves through further and increased campaigning, through petitions and protests.
7. To encourage further debate at both local and national level between students and those making such decisions putting education funding at the heart of NUS' campaign during the general election and demand a real debate with the public from the major parties.
8. To lobby the government to provide 'World Class Funding' for higher education by increasing the amount it spends on higher education by 0.2% of GDP, in order to meet the OECD average figure of 1.1% of GDP.
9. NUS to raise awareness within the government and public at large realities of student poverty.
10. To lobby the government to provide increased education funding as more people who are unable to find jobs go into or return to education.

**Amendment:** 608a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** For a Free Education  
**Submitted:** Bradford, City, Sheffield, LSBU, UEA, SOAS, Cranfield, Middlesex, Staffordshire, Coventry, Goldsmiths, Essex, Dunstable

**Speech for:** Middlesex University (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** NEC (2 mins)  
**Speech For:** UEA (1 mins)  
**Speech Against:** University of the Arts (1 mins)  
**Speech for:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Summation:** Essex University (1 mins)

1. Since 1997 the government have focused on a restructuring of education mirroring a global attack on the right to a free education.
2. Student fees are part of a vision of higher education designed for the market rather than human need.
3. The slogan "Free Education" still resonates with students and opens a discussion about what education is for.
4. Internationally students have rallied around these slogans to build mass campaigns defeating government education reform.
5. The review of higher education is no longer likely to happen before a general election.
6. NUS has a long history of fighting the marketisation of education and the introduction of fees.
7. Many institutions have already started budgeting for the cap to increase.
8. Chief among the arguments in support of the new system was that it would widen access to education; estimates vary but broadly show this has not happened.
9. Part-Time and International student fees are unregulated and rise without real justification.

#### Further Believes

1. Top-up fees have deterred many students from lower socio-economic backgrounds from attending university. Progress in widening participation has stalled according to UCAS figures showing a mere 0.7% increase in the number of students from the poorest backgrounds applying to universities.
2. The British Medical Association estimates medical students average debt is £37,000, which has a "hugely damaging" effect on widening participation.
3. Student debt disproportionately affects Black, Disabled, LGBT and Women students. Women take an average of 16 years to repay debt compared to 11 years for men.
4. Universities remain under-resourced. The consequences include huge rent increases due to privatisation of university accommodation, increased fees for course materials, under-funding of libraries and learning resources, and the closure of courses and departments which are not considered profitable.
5. That Higher Education should be paid for out of general taxation.
6. That EU and international students should also be able to access bursaries and grants.
7. Education has many positive side effects and should be seen as a good in its self. Campaigning for free access to education should be led by our belief in education for its own sake.
8. Government attempts to justify HE in terms of social mobility, economic benefit or creating "good citizens" are sometimes true but miss the central point of education (see CFB 8).
9. NUS should oppose any private sector control over education provision.

Conference Resolves.

1. To raise the slogan of "Free education and university grants for all"
2. Campaign for the Government to reverse its decision to limit Student numbers

**Amendment:** 608b

**ADD AMENDMENT**

**Heading:** Radical Action

**Submitted:** Bradford University, City University, Sheffield University, LSBU, UEA, SOAS, Cranfield University, Middlesex University, Staffordshire University, Goldsmiths, Coventry University, Essex University, Dunstable College

**Speech for:** Essex University (2 mins)

**Speech Against:** King's College London Students' Union (2 mins)

**Speech For:** Bradford University (1 min)

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)

**Summation:** Middlesex University (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. The consequences of the government's attempt to transfer the cost of expanding higher education onto individual students have been disastrous. Many students are forced into poorly-paid part-time work, negatively affecting their academic performance. Privatisation of university accommodation has increased, and libraries and other facilities remain under-resourced.

Further Believes

1. On a pragmatic level, a campaign to maintain the status quo of capped fees will not be successful. Only by leading an active campaign, mobilising thousands of students, and involving our allies in wider society, can NUS defeat the government's plans to further increase the cost of education.
2. Students need to campaign for great democratic control of their universities as well as for free education, we must attempt to build a mass democratic movement to defeat the government following the examples set around the world.
3. Mass action demonstrates the strength of student opposition to fees.
4. a campaign for completely free education for all may not be entirely successful but will re-orientate the debate in the right direction.

Conference resolves.

1. NUS should fight to restore a strong campaigning national students voice for free education
2. Campaign for a grant that covers living costs for all FE and HE students.
3. NUS should campaign locally and nationally for free education for all. We will build a coalition of students, young people, lecturers, trade unions and industry against fees.
4. To coordinate our campaign with the University College Union
5. Work with the NUS liberation campaigns to ensure the specific effects of student debt on Black, Disabled, LGBT and womens students are highlighted.
6. Lead an active campaign against higher fees or other methods of charging students, and opposing excessive international fees, hall privatisation and course closures.
7. Lead an active campaign to defend our education – opposing student debt, attempts to lift the cap or introduce other methods of charging students more, excessive international fees, halls privatisation, and course and department closures. Our campaigning should involve a London based national demonstration, campus days of action, and a mass lobby of Parliament mobilising thousands of students. It should explain how the government could progressively fund education.
8. Every available opportunity should be taken by members of the National Executive Committee to speak for free education, lobby politicians & HE sector leaders and press release to local, student and national media.
9. To organise with student activists, constituent members and other external organisations protests, meetings, rallies etc in favour of free education. These shall include at least one national demonstration, in London, as close to The Palace of Westminster as possible.
10. Oppose all methods of charging students, before or after graduation, and campaign for a living grant for all.
11. To lobby NUS to call a national first term demonstration (in 2009) and encourage local actions on every campus.

<b>Amendment:</b>	<b>608c</b>
	<b>ADD AMENDMENT</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>Save our Universities – Save London Met</b>
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>SOAS, University of East London, Cranfield University</b>
<b>Proposed:</b>	<b>SOAS (2 mins)</b>
<b>Against:</b>	<b>Free (2 mins)</b>
<b>Summation</b>	<b>Cranfield University (1 min)</b>

## Conference Believes:

1. That we must remain committed to the idea that another education is possible.
2. Education could be about finding and developing the potential of everyone but is instead about giving people skills for employment.
3. "Teaching" universities that have driven forwards widening participation are failing through lack of funds and the government's narrow skills agenda.
4. Students at London Metropolitan are now paying the price for the governments market driven policies.

## Conference Further Believes:

1. London Met has had its teaching budget cut by £18 million with the government clawing an extra £38 million in back payments.
2. University management quickly announced that at least 330 staff would lose their jobs to balance the books. No staff unions or students were consulted during the crisis.
3. Universities should be run democratically by staff and students not as a business by unaccountable managers.
4. We should demand that the government increase central funding at London Met and across the sector through taxation.

## Conference Resolves:

1. To support the "Save London Met" campaign alongside UCU and Unison.
2. To help organise a national day of action for London Met to include days of action on campus with meetings and collections for London Met UCU.
3. To publicise all protests and meetings called by the campaign.
4. To link it with a national campaign for free education and grants for all funded by progressive taxation.

<b>Amendment:</b>	<b>608d</b>
	<b>ADD AMENDMENT (2 mins)</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>A Fair Deal for Part-Time Students</b>
<b>Submitted:</b>	<b>UCLAN, Durham University, University of Reading</b>
<b>Proposed:</b>	<b>UCLAN (2 mins)</b>
<b>Against:</b>	<b>Free (2 mins)</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>Durham University (1 mins)</b>

## Conference Notes:

1. Currently part time students make up 35% of UK higher education
2. Fees for part-time students is currently completely unregulated
3. Part time students are a growing cohort within HE, and will become increasingly important for the UK in order to achieve many of the Leitch objectives .
4. The withdrawal of funding for Equivalent and Lower Qualifications (ELQs) will have a disproportionately large negative effect on prospective students.
5. Although improvements have been to the bursaries and other forms of financial support on offer to full time students, the improvements to the financial support packages for part time students has not been nearly good enough or proportionate.
6. Only 23% of part-time students receive any financial support whatsoever
7. In Scotland, the £500 loan was recently replaced with a grant.

## Conference Resolves:

1. To continue to lobby the Government to include part-time students in the 2009 review into fees review for full time undergraduates.
2. To demand a fairer student support package for part-time students, which is based on a pro-rata basis to full time students.

**Main Motion****Speech Against: Goldsmiths (1 mins)**

**Speech For:** Manchester Metropolitan (1 mins)  
**Speech Against:** SOAS (1 mins)  
**Summation:** Owned by the last successful amendment (1 mins)

**Motion:** 609  
**Heading:** Greasy S E's and Mc "A" Levels are an Attack on All Students  
**Submitted by:** Birkbeck College  
**Speech For:** Birkbeck College (2 mins)

Conference believes:

1. Marketisation of Education is not only about how much we pay for our qualifications; it is increasingly about the content of our courses as well.
2. In February 2008 the Government announced that it would be granting powers to three companies to award qualifications equivalent to GCSE's A Levels and Degrees.
3. The three companies are Network Rail, Flybe and McDonalds
4. In September 2007 the DIUS announced that it would financially sanction a narrow range of courses which it considers societally useful.

Conference Further Believes:

1. This government agenda is not about widening participation, it is a smoke-screen to protect the ongoing marketisation agenda.
2. It is appalling that McDonalds is one of the first companies to be allowed to grant qualifications.
3. The government is giving a veneer of acceptability to McDonalds when the reality is that McDonalds block unionisation of their staff, build workers into poverty and negatively impact on the environment.
4. McDonalds aggressively market to children (even sponsoring schools in the USA), and children are extremely vulnerable advertising.
5. McDonalds and other unethical companies are not worthy of dictating the content of our qualifications.
6. Universities have a proud history of being safe havens for debate, free thought and exploration of ideas. However, the ELQ cuts, now in force, attack all courses and all students: creating barriers which we have fought so hard to destroy.
7. The global recession requires the HE sector more now than ever to open its doors to new and current students re-skilling, up-skilling, returning to the 'traditional' workplace after giving their family the best possible start in life with full-time 'unpaid' homemaking work.
8. Private companies beholden to shareholders and the 'bottom line' must be kept out of education, and be prevented from conning a generation of students into poverty and mass-debt by corporate-written and privately-profit designed degrees.

Conference Resolves:

1. To campaign for McDonalds to be stripped of qualification award granting powers, and launch a stickering campaign to warn against "greasy education".
2. To organise a national demonstration against the marketisation of education in 2009.
3. To picket the government departments of DIUS and DCSF on 'poverty education' caused by marketisation.

**Amendment:** 609a  
**DELETE AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Greasy SE's and Mc "A" Levels are an attack on All Students  
**Submitted by:** Peterborough Regional College  
**Speech For:** Peterborough Regional College (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Goldsmiths (2 mins)  
**Speech for:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (1.5 mins)  
**Summation:** Peterborough Regional College (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Students are less likely to be in "traditional" learning environments in the 21st Century with the popularity of work based learning (WBL), apprenticeships, train to gain (T2G), open university etc.
2. Qualifications awarded to those on courses delivered by McDonald's are subject to the same level of scrutiny by qualification's authorities as any other.

Conference Further Believes:

1. With high course costs of non-work-funded education courses, and resistance from the majority of employers to funded training means it's a GOOD THING that McDonalds support it's workers.
2. Just because McDonalds sells bad food, doesn't mean to say it will deliver bad qualifications.

3. Training undertaken in the workplace should get proper recognition and credit so workers can transfer their learning to other jobs in the future.
4. NUS should actively encourage companies to support training workers in times of economic instability and high unemployment, not criticising it.
5. The education system continues to promote A-levels and degrees as the "gold standard" of education. This isn't the case, vocational training is just as critical. What's best for individual is paramount.

## Conference Resolves:

3. Campaign to ensure that all courses produced by companies able to award qualifications produce high quality, meaningful, transferable qualifications.
4. Work with trade unions, DIUS, DCSF, National Apprentice Service to create a campaign that raises the profile and provides better IAG on WBL to the public.

**Against:** NEC (1 mins)  
**Summation:** Birkbeck (1 min)

**Motion:** 610  
**Heading:** Support of Franchise and Collaborative Venture Students  
**Submitted by:** Northumbria University Students' Union

**Speech for:** Northumbria University Students' Union (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Northumbria University Students' Union (1 min)

## Conference Believes:

1. That Collaborative Venture is defined as one University partnering up with another/several institution(s).
2. An ever increasing number of Universities are engaging in collaborative ventures this is very good in the short term for the students engaged in this process, however, in the long term, students within this system are penalised as they don't receive the benefits the institution provides to on campus students.
3. That many institutions in the UK HE Sector have partner institutions abroad and in the UK to which they offer franchise degree programmes. 'Partner Institution' refers to another institution delivering, in whole or in part, a validated or accredited programme of study or research leading to one of the University's awards.
4. That students enrolled on these programmes are effectively students of the awarding institution in the UK.
5. That many students enrolling on franchise programmes want the value of the awarding institutions degree but do not want to actually study on that campus.
6. Degree classifications are of equal value to students on the parallel course at the awarding institution.
7. That the amount of work and commitment to the programme is the same for franchise students as it is for students studying at the awarding institution in the UK

## Conference Further Believes:

1. That these students are often neglected in terms of representation
2. That these students are entitled to the same academic support and guidance as students studying the equivalent programme at the awarding institution.
3. That it is the responsibility of the awarding institution in the UK to ensure that academic standards for franchise students are the same as they are at the awarding institution.
4. That in some cases, students on franchise degree programmes are not entitled to some support and services provided by the partner institution, and do not receive the required support from the awarding institution

## Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the Vice-President (Higher Education) to lobby Vice-Chancellors through UUK and mission groups to ensure that minimum standards are agreed for students studying on franchise degree programmes. Therefore ensuring comparability of the learning experience, the equivalence in academic standards and the proper enforcement of the duty of academic care, for instance minimum standards on feedback and adherence to learning agreements.
2. To mandate the Vice President (Higher Education) to make the plight of franchise students a standing item at HE events.



## Conference Further Believes

1. That students undertake paid employment for a variety of reasons, but for too many it is a financial struggle that harms studies, especially for those earning less than minimum wage, specifically international students.
2. That postgraduate students often face the toughest economical challenges, and that of these, part-time post-graduates are the worst affected, as they are not exempt from income tax, council tax or N.I. contributions.

## Conference Resolves

1. To work with the TUC to promote the rights of all student workers and trade union membership.
2. To campaign for and mention in the 2009 review the requirement for London students to earn the LLW beginning with employees at universities, colleges and students unions.
3. To work towards better proportionality in taxes and contributions paid by part-time students in employment, expecting reductions, not exemptions.
4. To further investigate the employment conditions of students, specifically postgraduate, and work towards guidelines for union-level support.

**Amendment:**               **701b**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**

**Heading:**                   **NMW**

**Submitted by:**           **Richard Huish College, Castle College Nottingham**

**Speech For:**               **Richard Huish College (2 mins)**

**Speech Against:**       **Free (2 mins)**

**Summation:**              **Castle College Nottingham (1 min)**

## Conference Believes:

1. The FE Zone and Society and Citizenship Zone adopted the Citizen 16 campaign in 2007.
2. The National Minimum Wage (NMW) is a key part of the Citizen 16 campaign.
3. The NMW discriminates students who are under 22 through the use of age bands.
4. The 16-18 band pays 40% less, and the 18-21 band 20% less than the full NMW.
5. The NMW does not apply to apprentices resulting in pay of as little as £2 an hour!
6. As part of the C16 campaign, NUS and local Students' Unions made submissions to the Low Pay Commission.

## Conference Further Believes:

1. NUS is already working hard to end the discrimination in the NMW as well as to remove the exemption for apprentices.
2. Businesses take advantage of students by exploiting the age bands and exemption.
3. Low pay, means students are forced to work more hours, having a detrimental impact on their studies.

## Conference Resolves:

1. That any calls for increases in the NMW must be supported by calls for an end to age bands and an end to the apprenticeship exemption.
2. To involve the FE Zone fully in any work on the NMW in order to support the Citizen 16 campaign.

**Amendment:**               **701c**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**

**Heading:**                   **Student Rights at Work – the Revenge**

**Submitted:**               **Loughborough Students' Union**

**Speech For:**               **Loughborough Students' Union (2 mins)**

**Speech Against:**       **Free (2 mins)**

**Summation:**              **Free (1 min)**

## Conference Believes:

1. NUS research shows that in the recession, it is more difficult for all students to find a part-time to finance their studies or a graduate job afterwards.
2. Job opportunities are even less for students from poorer or minority backgrounds( such as international, postgraduates, mature, part-time, black, disabled, students with children and etc)
3. Financial support is limited for poorer and minority students

## Conference Further Believes:

1. Every student is entitled to make the best of their HE/FE life with enough support to finish their studies.
2. NUS should work to protect every student's employment rights with the National Employers Accreditation.

## Conference Resolves

1. NUS to campaign against further cuts to financial support for all students, especially those from poorer and minority backgrounds.
2. NUS to lobby the government to make urgent financial support to help all students in the recession, and a request for equal minority students support arrangements in the 09 review submission.
3. NUS to lobby the government, universities on more paid internships added to more student's course to help finance their study and enhance their employability.
4. NUS to lobby for better relations between university/college career centre services and recruiters to enhance every student's employability for part-time and full-time positions
5. NUS and all Students Unions to promote various government funded global study/placement opportunities in PMI2 projects and work with AIESEC to enhance students' employability in the world of global opportunities.

**Amendment:** 701d  
**Heading:** A Living Wage – Low Pay, No way  
**Submitted by:** Exeter Guild, Birmingham City, UCLAN, Reading University, Swansea Metropolitan  
**Speech For:** Swansea Metropolitan (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Free (1 min)

## Conference Believes:

1. The minimum wage is not enough to live on.
2. They are working in the lowest paying areas of the economy. Retail and hospitality.
3. In the UK 4.5 million adults were paid less than £6.50 per hour in 2006.
4. Outsourcing of cleaning and catering services had led to unscrupulous firms exploiting more vulnerable sections of the population, particularly migrant workers.
5. Cleaners, students and staff supporters have protested and campaigned at many London Universities for the London Living Wage (LLW), a minimal wage and benefit package developed by the GLA under Ken Livingstone. As a result of campaigning, the LLW rate has been adopted by SOAS, LSE and Queen Mary's (in general). There are also LLW campaigns at several other London Universities, including King's and Birkbeck.
6. Universities and student unions generally employ staff on the National Minimum Wage and not a living wage.
7. Many people who earn the NMW do not have any form of collective representation.
8. There is a distinct lack of unionised staff within our students unions.

## Conference Further Believes:

1. Earning a living wage will put an end to poverty pay.
2. Few unions have taken up a student bar workers campaign promoting the rights of bar workers and encouraging staff to become unionised.
3. Few Universities are living wage universities with QMUL being the first living wage campus in the country.
4. When low pay commission set the minimum wage they did not take in account peoples' actual needs which is why the NMW does not allow people to escape from poverty.
5. There has been much good work done with the trade union and the fair pay network to raise awareness and campaign for the end of poverty pay in the UK.
6. Exeter Students' Guild has begun creation of a students bar workers union.
7. The LLW calculates that to survive a city as expensive as London, a "weighting" should be added to the national minimum wage, resulting in a total hourly rate of £7.45 per hour (plus sick pay and other benefits). Most often university cleaning and other staff earn the national minimum wage (£5.73).
8. The national minimum wage is also too low to live on for workers outside of London and poverty wages are generalised phenomenon in Britain.

## Conference Resolves:

1. VP Welfare to work with the fair pay network, trade unions, students union on launching a living wage campaign to get out Universities and colleges to be living wage campuses.
2. VP Welfare to write a briefing for unions on what the living wage campaign is all about and why this must happen now.
3. To roll out the student bar staff campaign and develop the bar workers union ideal but extend that to all working students.
4. That these should link with campaigns of low-paid workers outside the education system.
5. That all Students' Unions should pay their staff the LW.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 702  
**Heading:** Student Housing, It's Our Neighbourhood Too!  
**Submitted by:** Birmingham Guild of Students, University of Plymouth, University of Bristol  
**Speech For:** Birmingham Guild (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** University of Plymouth (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. With the governments commitment to increase the number of people at University this will also have an impact on where these students live.
2. Universities have been distinctly quiet in the whole debate around students in the community and the 'troubles' that other residents are having with students, leaving students unions to take all the blows
3. Students are being blamed for noise, mess, anti-social behaviour, school closures and crime
4. There are many groups out there such as the HMO lobby who would not like to see students living in the area where they study.
5. NUS has done fantastic work on students in the community and have influenced many people that the issue is not students but area management.
6. There is an aim to disperse students from where they live currently and it will never work as legislation is not retrospective
7. Around 20% of first year and around 50% of students in other years live in accommodation provided by the private rented sector.
8. That, as a direct result of successful NUS campaigning, the 2004 Housing Act introduced provisions that have the potential to protect students from dodgy landlords and poor quality, sub-standard accommodation, including the introduction of tenancy deposit protection.
9. That landlords have a responsibility to ensure that their properties meet appropriate standards.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Former Housing minister Caroline Flint made an announcement that councils should be given more power to manage high concentrations of HMO's
2. There are a lot more people living in HMO's than just students (Migrant workers, young professionals, people in halfway homes) the average age of renting today is 35, we are in the middle of an economic crisis but somehow someone somewhere thought that this would be the perfect time to dictate where people should be living.
3. Students often contribute a great deal to their community – not just through boosting the local economy, but also through their charity and fundraising activities.
4. The government commissioned a review of the private rented sector.
5. The findings echoed what NUS has been saying as part of the neighbourHOOD campaign.
  - There is no need for national legislation to manage high levels of HMO's
  - The 'issues' that people are facing in the community can be solved through more resources and better management of the area not legislation
  - Where there are accreditation schemes there is a distinct increase in the quality of accommodation that is provided to students
6. That in too many cases, landlords are not handing deposits back or are imposing unfair penalties for general wear and tear on the property; in one case in Leeds, a property company even changed their name and company details to hold on to student deposits, prompting protests from Leeds' students.
7. That while some local authorities have shamefully used quotas on the number of houses with multiple occupants (HMO) to limit student housing, HMO's are a critical tool for maintaining appropriate standards; there is a real risk that quotas will force students into an unregulated market of unlicensed, unsafe housing.
8. Poor quality housing harms students and is detrimental to other local residents.

Conference Resolves:

1. To monitor the success, or otherwise, of tenancy deposit protection and expose cases of poor practice in conjunction with local students' unions.
2. To continue to lobby central and local government to ensure that local authorities are making full use of the provisions laid out in the 2004 Housing Act.

3. Oppose any attempt to change the definition of a HMO in planning legislation.
4. Continue the work that has been done so far on the neighbOURhood campaign, identify key MPs to lobby and advocate our message.
5. Promote what we believe is a balanced and sustainable community eg, one which is economically stable, offers the right services to the residents, the neighbourhood is safe etc.

**Amendment:**               **702a**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                   **For Goodness Sake Stop Hating Students**  
**Submitted by:**           **UWE**  
**Speech For:**               **UWE (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against:**       **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**               **UWE (1 min)**

Conference believes

1. There is disproportionate amount of negative perceptions about students and their living habits from the amount of noise they make to the amount of people they live with.
2. Students are seen as an undesirable consequence to having a University in a town or city
3. In order for progress to be made and allow us to live in communities which are peaceful, partnership work must take place.
4. A partnership between the students union, local council, other residents, landlords and other students unions are options of partnerships which actually work.

Conference further believes

1. Nottingham University students union and Leeds University Union have done some fantastic work in partnership with their local council.
2. Nottingham University Students Union in partnership with their local council and University sent out a joint letter to students welcoming them to the city. This had a positive impact on other residents in the city.
3. Northern Ireland are the current battle we have to fight to protect student where they live. Environment Minister Sammy Wilson launched a new plan to manage the number of multiple occupancy houses in Belfast shared by students and single people.
4. The job of students in their community is not to be left for the welfare or community officer everyone should be thinking of students in the neighbourhood

Conference resolves

1. VP Welfare to support any Union who are defending their students rights.
2. VP Welfare to work with VP Society and Citizenship and VP Union Development to promote a holistic approach.

**Amendment:**               **702b**  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:**                   **Student Cooperative Housing**  
**Submitted by:**           **NEC, Liverpool Guild**  
**Speech For:**               **Liverpool Guild (2 mins)**  
**Speech Against:**       **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:**               **NEC (1 min)**

Conference Believes:

1. Every two years NUS publish an accommodation cost survey which highlights the comparison of the cost of student accommodation with previous years.
2. The price of student accommodation is on the rise with London and the south east being the most expensive while Wales is the cheapest place to live as a student.
3. Student numbers are rising, this will have an impact on accommodation provision.
4. Universities are selling off the halls and have started to build less and less accommodation and are starting to opt for partnership agreements with private providers.
5. Once upon a time HEFCE would give grants to Universities to build student accommodation.

Conference Further Believes:

1. NUS received £50,000 from co-operative action which was in part put towards the first two phases of the project. The first phase was a feasibility report. It concluded that the project was indeed feasible to have a pilot in Manchester.
2. 80% loan can be borrowed from the co-operative bank, the other 20% it was thought could come from NUS and Students Unions in Manchester.
3. Over 8 years the financial situation of NUS and Students Unions has completely changed making decisions for such projects to go ahead much more difficult than originally hoped.

4. The financial situation meant a delay in implementing the second phase of the project which encompassed selecting building design, construction methods, maintenance, environmental measures, policies and procedures, training, cost plan, business plan, legal structures.
5. There are many examples around the globe of National Unions playing a lead role in student co-ops.
6. The Swedish National Union of Students, Canadian Union of Students and in the USA are all leading the way with student co-operatives.
7. Over 15,000 Students in the USA and Canada are living in Co-operatives.
8. Over the last year the housing charity Unipol have offered substantial support to get this going which is a welcomed move.

## Conference Resolves:

1. NUS should continue engaging with the student Co-operative housing project
2. Vice-President Welfare to do some up-to date research on this, set up focus groups and surveys to gauge student's preferences for the Co-operative housing project.
3. To support a vision of in student wally accomodation with low rents, unique design, sustainable development, democratic involvement and community spirit.
4. To work with the Universities and Students Unions in Manchester for a strategy for the way forward on this project.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 703  
**Heading:** Responsible Drinking is More than a Poster!  
**Submitted By:** Portsmouth University, Westminster Adult Student Association (WASA), Westminster University, Northumbria University

**Speech For:** Westminster Adult Student Association (WASA) (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** NEC (1 min)

## Conference Believes:

1. NUS and students unions are failing students locally and nationally constantly by ONLY running "responsible" drinking campaigns, which usually involves a few posters, gimmicks and messages delivered at the worst time possible, when people are drunk.
2. There has to be a realisation that more has to be done to get the responsible drinking message across.
3. Over 50 students unions this year were awarded the best bar none awards.
4. NUS have been instrumental in supporting the Early day motion which was laid down by Sally Keeble "Binge drinking and regulation of alcohol sales"
5. The government launched a consultation – Safe, sensible and social which NUS feed into

## Conference Further Believes:

1. The amount of alcohol sold in supermarkets has for the first time has taken over the sales of alcohol in bars, clubs etc.
2. Less people are drinking when they are out and more are deciding that they will drink before they leave because this is the cheapest option.
3. While a majority of unions are responsible in the way they serve alcohol there are still many that do not and this is reflected through their prices and lack of polices. Eg, "80p Mondays, 5GBP all you can drink Tuesdays and 1GBP Wednesdays" or no drinks in the bar to be sold over 2.50GBP
4. At the NUS/NUSSL/AMSU strategic conversation there was a session on the importance of alcohol, and our duty to promote responsible drinking as a student movement which went down extremely well and has opened the door to allow for further open discussions on how we promote responsible drinking.
5. There has been much work done in various cities such as Northampton on the subject of minimum pricing.
6. We have two options and that is to make sure that we are at the centre of any conversation taking place on alcohol and grab the bull by the horns and be the maker of our own destiny or we can turn away and hope we do not come across to badly.

## Conference Resolves:

1. Vice president welfare to actively continue working with Students Unions on what a proactive and successful responsible drinking campaign is.
2. Vice-president Welfare to work with NUSSL on this issue and to start the conversation of minimum pricing in unions
3. Vice-President Welfare to engage with the government and with the alcohol industry on the irresponsible nature of supermarkets selling their alcohol so cheaply

**Amendment:** 703a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** 1 Tequilila, 2 Tequila, 3 Tequila, Floor  
**Submitted by:** Kent Union, Plymouth University  
**Speech For:** Kent Union (2 mins)  
**Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Plymouth University (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. The majority of Further Education institutions, small and specialist HEs do not run or own bars
2. Many unions link up with local drinking establishments: bars, nightclubs etc to offer "student nights" to their member
3. The SU usually gets a cut in the night, by advertising and ensuring students attend. They may receive part of the entrance fee per person (e.g. 50p a head who shows their SU card), or a lump sum for the night
4. That the misuse of drugs and alcohol pose serious risk to student health
5. That the student population are amongst the groups in society most likely to use drugs and alcohol, for recreational purposes.
6. That too little is widely understood about the risks posed through misuse of drugs and alcohol, as well as other substances and the risks need to be better publicised.
7. That illegal drugs funded organised crime, nationally and internationally
8. NUS has policy against Carnage
9. That Carnage has caused carnage in too many towns and cities and brought the student movement into disrepute.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That too little is known about the frequency and extent of drugs and alcohol use amongst students and this must inform any public policy approach.
2. That students' unions have a responsibility to raise awareness of the health risks involved and to promote behavioural change to keep student life safe.
3. That students' unions have responsibilities to their licence to ensure responsible drinking and that no illegal substances are used on their premises.
4. If a SU is linking its branding to nights like these, it has a responsibility to ensure that the welfare of students is kept high on the agenda of these nights, regardless of the fact they are not in SU owned property.
5. That alcohol is too cheap and encouraging dangerous levels of consumption
6. That irresponsible drinks promotion need to be challenged but in a competitive climate. Students' Unions can't act alone.
7. Many of these "students nights" have alcohol at very cheap, very affordable prices, making the night attractive and the chance to binge very easy.
8. As the SU do not run the night, they just affiliate to it, the SU are not in full control of the evening, they don't manage the staff, control the policies of the bar and hold insurance etc.
9. Many students do not feel comfortable socialising in bars, clubs, venues with alcohol for various reasons, and SU's shouldn't focus the entertainment they offer solely around this, as it excludes people.

Conference Resolves:

1. To undertake research
2. For the VP Welfare to deliver a workshop at the Welfare Zone Conference on how to work with external alcohol establishments on "student nights"
3. For the VP Welfare to facilitate a proactive campaign highlighting how alcohol can be a barrier to participation for some, whilst educating students so they understand the limits for alcohol consumption.
4. To work with external partners to promote health and safe living messages to our members
5. To promote responsible drinking and to raise concerns with government to tackle responsible drinks promotion.
6. To oppose Carnage and write to local authorities and MPs to ensure that NUS and students' unions are not associated with this behaviour.

**Amendment:** 703b  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Responsible Drinking  
**Submitted by:** Wolverhampton University  
**Speech For:** Wolverhampton (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Wolverhampton (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Student Unions have a higher duty of care to their customers than high street venues
2. Alcohol use amongst students is a highly emotive issue, generating a disproportionate media response
3. Supermarkets have aggressively promoted alcohol to students, sometimes as a loss leader
4. As a reaction some Unions are reverting to aggressive tactics of the high street and believing that the cheaper the alcohol, the higher the profit
5. There has to be a holistic approach to selling alcohol. If it funds your welfare services why would you risk your students welfare in order to make that profit.
6. We need to put people before profit

Conference Further Believes:

1. The movement needs to make firm decisions about how commercial and CSR commitments happily co-exist
2. The Government is actively looking at proposals of introducing a minimum price of which alcohol can be sold
3. Many published alcohol stories relating to students give a strong, adverse, negative perception of students and alcohol
4. There is a lack of imagination in the movement on what we do if we don't sell cheap alcohol
5. There is a fear that if the costs of alcohol rises then students' unions will be screwed

Conference Resolves:

1. Develop a voluntary code for students' unions and student focused bars, with clear minimum requirements to operate.
2. Develop new diverse income streams for Unions
3. VP Welfare to work with VP Union Development to develop diverse socializing streams for students.
4. To support Unions who go "non commercial".

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

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**Motion:** 704  
**Heading:** No to Stop and Search  
**Submitted by:** City College Plymouth

**Speech for:** City College Plymouth Students' Union (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** City College Plymouth Students' Union (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. The forthcoming Children, Skills and Learners Bill from DCSF will include clauses extending College Principal's authority to Stop and Search students without consent to drugs, alcohol and potentially stolen property
2. The guidance suggests that searches for alcohol will only take place on students under 18
3. Under the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006, College Principal's already have powers to stop and search students, without consent, if they have good reason to suspect a student is carrying a weapon
4. These powers can only be exercised by Principal's and any member of staff he or she authorises such as security staff
5. These recommendations are the result of a report by Sir Alan Steer, a Government School Behaviour Adviser
6. Statistics from the Equality and Human Rights Commission show that black people are 7 times more likely to be stopped than white people
7. It is the role of the Police to conduct Searches in public places
8. This initiative does not include measures to enable searches on members of staff

Conference Further Believes:

1. That there is no reason why this initiative will not discriminate against Black and Asian people in our colleges in the same way as it does on the streets
2. Our College's can not become arenas of discrimination and intimidation
3. That "reasonable grounds to suspect" is open to interpretation and abuse
4. Authorising staff members to conduct searched on students places their safety at risk and are currently told to avoid such situations
5. Not all Colleges have Security staff and very few have staff who are trained to carry out searches without consent on students
6. That safeguards for students outlined by DCSF do not go far enough and mean that the system can easily be manipulated.

Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate NUS to actively oppose any initiative by the Government to give College Principal's the power to Stop and Search on Campus
2. For the VP Welfare to write to the Secretary of State detailing our concerns as part of a high profile FE Welfare campaign to fight against these proposals.

**Motion:** 705  
**Heading:** Access for All Students  
**Submitted by:** Queen Mary University, Leeds University Union, Sussex University, Bradford University and Nottingham University  
**Speech For:** Queen Mary University (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Leeds University Union (2 mins)

Conference Believes:

1. NUS has a diverse membership with many different needs and has introduced common practice measures, such as access breaks, as an attempt to meet said needs.
2. NUS has succeeded in addressing many issues involving accessibility and supporting its diverse membership
3. That NUS Events booking procedures allow people to make requests regarding access needs such as childcare, veg\*n, halal or kosher food, enablers, gender neutral toilets and trans-safe accommodation
4. Accessibility addresses the needs of students with disabilities and those who prefer to be in non-alcoholic spaces due to personal preferences or religious freedoms.
5. NUS Disabled Students' Conference provides palantypist service to all delegates and observers, via projection onto large screen.

Conference Further Believes:

1. It is evident that there is still room for improvement within the NUS to allow better access to all students.

2. That some people may be uncomfortable discussing access needs with their delegation leader or union staff members (for example a trans person who requires gender neutral toilets)
3. That there are reports of students having to leave events (or not to attend in first place) because of clashes with religious holidays, inappropriate accommodation, and other issues.

## Conference Resolves:

1. To provide (and inform all attendees of) adequate gender neutral toilets at all NUS events, and to allow people to define their gender when registering for all NUS Conferences events.
2. To ensure that formal proceedings of NUS events are not held in alcoholic venues and ensure that non-alcoholic alternatives to alcoholic socials are provided to accommodate for those students who prefer non-alcoholic environments for age, religious or personal reasons.
3. Provide alternative events at annual conference to accommodate for students who prefer non-alcohol due to personal preferences or religious freedoms
4. To make the palantypist service available to all delegates and observers at NUS Conferences, via projection onto a large screen, to improve accessibility for all.
5. To ensure that democratic NUS events are not held at the same time as important religious festivals.

**Motion:** 706  
**Heading:** Racism in Education  
**Submitted by:** Coventry University, Dunstable College, Goldsmiths, Staffordshire University, Middlesex University, City University, SOAS, Leeds Metropolitan University, Essex University, UEL, Cranfield University, Sheffield Hallam (except CR3)

**Speech for:** Coventry University (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** King's College London Students' Union (1 min)

## Conference Believes:

1. The Nazi BNP is aiming to win a seat in the European elections in June by blaming the economic crises on immigration.
2. That they are using the election campaign to try and get back onto the streets. BNP "flash" stalls have appeared in many towns to distribute leaflets and promote their organisation. The BNP's leadership believe that to wield real power they need to turn their electoral success into a bigger core of activists capable of mobilising racists on the streets.
3. Racism isn't just about attitudes of individuals, it is a feature of the world we live in reinforced by the structure and institutions of society.
4. Education is no exception. Black students are systematically failed by our schools, colleges and universities. Exclusion rates amongst Black students are three times higher than among white students in schools.
5. Economic crises and war is laying a base on which racism in new and old forms can breed. Talk of controlling immigration is now repeated by government ministers.

## Conference Further Believes:

1. The BNP is attempting to exploit this and create a greater street presence for itself with street stalls and demonstrations.
2. The class divide in which universities students attend is demonstrated by the fact that the top 20 universities had fewer black students than London Metropolitan in 2006. This trend has not been reversed.
3. The comments about gun and knife crime, immigration, segregation and Islam in the press recently have helped to legitimise racist attitudes.
4. The class division in which universities students attend can foster racism in our universities.
5. We need to be prepared to campaign to keep our universities racist free and fascist free.
6. That we need an anti-racism movement that builds the maximum unity against the BNP while challenging racism politically.

## Conference Resolves:

1. To affiliate /continue to support Unite Against Fascism and Love Music Hate Racism.
2. To support the LMHR carnival in Stoke on Trent on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Amendment:** 706a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Stop the BNP – On the Streets and at the Ballot Boxes  
**Submitted by:** SOAS, UEL, Cranfield University, Coventry University, Goldsmiths, Dunstable College, Staffordshire University, Middlesex University, City University, Essex University and Sheffield Hallam University

**Speech For:** Middlesex University (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Cranfield University (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That the BNP's membership lists have revealed they have a number of members in positions of responsibility.
2. We need a clear understanding that the ultimate aim of the BNP is to use its electoral success to build a movement on the streets capable of destroying all forms of democracy.

Conference Further Believes:

1. It is the anti-democratic fascist ideology of the BNP, not distaste for its particular policies which leads us to "No Platform" it.
2. That we promote the idea that no platform is about building a mass movement to remove the BNP and its Nazi cadre from our Unions, Universities, workplaces and communities.

Conference Resolves:

1. To reaffirm NUS' no platform for fascists policy.
2. To develop an anti-fascist strategy that goes beyond elections to challenging the BNP on the streets and our campuses

**Amendment:** 706b  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** NUS must Confront Racism  
**Submitted by:** SOAS, UEL, Cranfield University, Coventry University, Goldsmiths, Dunstable College, Staffordshire University, Middlesex University, City University, Essex University, Sheffield Hallam University, Leeds Metropolitan University

**Speech For:** Goldsmiths (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** King's College London Students' Union (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. NUS' apolitical culture has accommodated attitudes within it that reflect racism within society. Officers can tick boxes in speeches but fail to recognise or challenge racism.

Conference Further Believes:

- a. Students lack confidence in the ability of the NUS to handle accusations of racism. Particular concerns were raised with the transparency, speed and composition of the procedures.

Conference Resolves:

1. To condemn and organise to support the removal from office of officers who make racist comments.
2. To mandate the NEC to review their disciplinary and complaints procedure, including but not limited to the concerns expressed in this motion, and report back to the next annual conference on this matter.
3. To hold NUS leadership to account for failing to deal politically with the reality of racism.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

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**Motion:** 707  
**Heading:** Changes to the Benefits System  
**Submitted by:** Aberdeen College and City College Plymouth

**Speech For:** Aberdeen College (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** City College Plymouth (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. In July, the Westminster Government presented proposals for sweeping changes to the benefits system in a green paper called No One Written Off.
2. The consultation was launched with the aim of creating a record employment rate and reducing social exclusion.
3. According to the Funding Council's Longitudinal Survey, approximately 17% of students in colleges in Scotland receive some sort of benefits.
4. That the consultation does not make any mention of colleges.
5. The Education and Leaving Age was changed in 2008, with the effect that by 2015 all students will continue in education/training until 18 years old.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Education is a crucial aspect of raising the skills and also the confidence of people on benefits to enter the workplace.
2. This consultation should have made many more references to education.
3. The complexity of the Scottish student support systems and their interaction with the UK-wide benefits system is a huge barrier for many students.
4. The creation of a new Employment Support Allowance and the abolition of Income Support could have huge consequences for many students, especially lone parents and disabled students.
5. Students who want to study a particular course or undertake an Apprenticeship or WBL etc may not be able to attend their local institution or may have more than once place of learning. Some students will be forced to choose their educational path based on how much it costs, rather than what and where they would like to study.

Conference Resolves

1. To campaign for education to be recognised as a path to sustainable employment and to encourage Government to take a long-term view of the benefits system.
2. To fight to ensure that potential students on benefits receive adequate funding and support to commence and successfully complete a course.
3. To ensure that Scotland is not forgotten when UK-wide benefits structures are created.
4. To work with Scotland's Colleges and both the Westminster and Scottish Governments to resolve many of the complexities and difficulties that students on benefits face within the student funding system
5. To continue to monitor changes to the benefits system and ensure that no students are disadvantaged as a result.
6. To write to James Purnell MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and other Ministers in the Department for Work and Pensions expressing our view.
7. Lobby the government to introduce a national "right to learn, right to travel" concessionary travel scheme for those who are expected to continue their education up to 18, and all learners entitled to a Government funded level two and three qualification.
8. The travel subsidy will be agreed nationally, and not left to the discretion of local politicians or local education agencies.
9. To be explicit that the national subsidy should be a minimum and not a maximum, that local authorities should supplement the general entitlement with targeted support for those in more need.
10. To campaign that information about the financial support, and level of travel subsidy available to be contained within literature for perspective students, and publicised through a "one stop shop" national database.
11. This should be part of a broader "Fund public services properly" campaign.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>708</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>"Miss University" Beauty Pageants and Sexist Environment for Women in Education</b>
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Birkbeck College</b>
<b>Speeches For:</b>	<b>Birkbeck (2 mins)</b>
<b>Speeches Against:</b>	<b>Free (2 mins)</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>Birkbeck (1 min)</b>

Conference Believes:

1. That women have been admitted to university to study on equal terms with men since 1878;
2. That "Miss University" contests have been taking place throughout London and will culminate in the "Miss University London" final in early 2009;
3. That similar contests are run throughout the UK;
4. That the website for Miss University claims that they send "scouts and representatives" to Campus.
5. The Birkbeck College Student Union congratulates the team from Corpus Christi College Oxford on University Challenge.
6. We condemn unreservedly the sexist and misogynist attacks against the team's captain Gail Trimble.
7. The treatment of her in the press and on various blogs is evidence of the continuing effect of patriarchy on the participation of women in higher education.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the Miss University contests contravene the NUS Equal Opportunities Statement;
2. That the contests undermine the academic achievements of female students and the universities that they represent;
3. That no university name should be associated with misogynistic events;
4. Whilst we respect the rights of individuals to enter, student unions should not support or endorse the pageant.
5. Trimble has had a great deal made of her personal appearance up to and including offers from lad mags and equally pernicious sexist comments about her not being the ideal women, but attractive nonetheless because of her intelligence.

Conference Resolves:

1. Not to allow beauty pageants to take place on campus, and to fight the use of any Constituent Member's name by the organisers of these events;
2. To not allow beauty pageant representatives on campus
3. To oppose misogynistic attacks which promote the view that a woman must either conform to a stereotypical ideal of beauty or be smart enough to transcend it, instead of being treated as equals to their male counterparts.

**Motion:** 709  
**Heading:** Defend our Right to Choose  
**Submitted by:** Northumbria University Students' Union, University of Portsmouth  
**Speeches For:** Northumbria (2 mins)  
**Speeches Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Portsmouth (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. Any attempts to reduce the upper limits of requesting an abortion, as stated in the Abortion Act 1967 will take us back to an era where thousands of women had to resort to back street aborting, which led to serious injury or death.
2. This year there have been three unsuccessful attempts to reduce access to abortion.
3. 86% of prospective Tory MPs want the limit lowered, according to a survey carried out by Conservative Home, an unofficial Tory Party website.
4. Polls show 83% of people support a woman's right to choose.
5. Unlike in England, Scotland or Wales, in Northern Ireland abortion can only be obtained if the woman's life is at risk and in some cases of foetal abnormality.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Women's right to abortion is undermined and restricted by the two-doctor rule, the 1967 Act not applying to Northern Ireland and insufficient funding for abortion services on the NHS.
2. Attempts to lower the upper time limit for abortion will affect the most vulnerable women and force them to carry on with unwanted pregnancies or risk their lives in unsafe abortions.
3. The 1967 Act can be improved to remove unnecessary delays and barriers to access abortion services.

Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the Vice President (Welfare) to lobby the Government to ensure women in Northern Ireland have the same reproductive rights as women in other parts of the United Kingdom.
2. To mandate the Vice President (Welfare) to launch an information campaign on contraception and abortion rights.
3. To organise campus meetings to inform students of the need to defend abortion rights.
4. To support actions to defend and extend abortion rights.
5. To call on the trade unions and Abortion Rights to call a national mass demonstration demanding a woman's genuine right to choose.

**Motion:** 710  
**Heading:** TV Licensing in Halls of Residence and TVL Advertising  
**Submitted by:** University of Surrey  
**Speech For:** University of Surrey (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** University of Surrey (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. A full TV licence is priced at £139.50
2. Currently students require 1 television licence per room in a Hall of Residence
3. Accommodation for Residential Care (ARC) is eligible for a licence that allows each room to pay £7.50 – not the full £139.50
4. Hotels require only 1 licence per 15 rooms (and then 1 licence for every 5 rooms thereafter)
5. TVL advertising takes the form of digital advertising, via Sub TV to 178 student venues across 92 Universities/institutions.
6. TVL also distributes leaflets and letters either sent directly out to Halls of Residences or at Freshers' Fayre
7. Posters are often used around Students' Unions promoting TVL advertising
8. The next TVL advertising campaign will use online banner ads, radio and sms text messages to promote the 'No Excuse' campaign
9. A current advertisement by advertising agency 'Proximity London' on behalf of TVL is being shown across 178 commercial student venues. It claims that TVL 'loves students' excuses,' because it allows them to use them as 'evidence.'

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the high cost of a television has either discouraged students from using a television or led them to illegally own and operate one (without a full licence)
2. TVL advertising has become harsh, threatening and unforgiving on students

3. The definition of a 'bully' is: A blustering, quarrelsome, overbearing person [organisation] who habitually badgers and intimidates smaller or weaker people
4. Current TVL advertising/enforcement bullies students
5. Halls should be treated in the same way as ARC (Accommodation for Residential Care) where a subsidised licence should be available to students living in Halls of Residence

## Conference Resolves:

1. NUS should campaign to obtain the same status as ARCs for Halls of Residences
2. NUS should campaign and lobby TVL and Proximity London to adopt more peaceful and less intrusive advertising tactics that focus on informing – not patronising or scaring students
3. NUS should campaign and lobby SubTV to better regulate TVL advertising in student venues

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>711</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>Scholarest – Good Value for Money?</b>
<b>Submitted:</b>	<b>Peterborough Regional College Students' Union</b>
<b>Speech for:</b>	<b>Peterborough Regional College (2 mins)</b>
<b>Speech Against:</b>	<b>Free (2 mins)</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>Peterborough Regional College (1 min)</b>

## Conference Believes:

1. That Scholarest is the market leader in providing catering services to colleges and universities within the UK, with outlets in approximately 127 institutions.
2. That there appears to be no recent research into Scholarest and its activities in Further and Higher Education institutions.
3. That the student population of the UK need to have fairly priced, good quality and value for money catering services within their institutions.
4. That Scholarest does not provide these
5. That Scholarest does not listen to the views and opinions of the bulk of its customers, who are mainly students, despite Learner Involvement Strategies in colleges requiring them to do this.

## Conference Further Believes:

1. Scholarest are not the only company which acts to create a monopoly on campuses.
2. Many similar FE and dHE institutes have only one company providing catering services on campus.
3. Monopolies on our campuses drive up prices
4. An increasing number of students are struggling financially in both FE and HE.
5. Prices of fast food on campuses are consistently being priced lower than healthier options.
6. Higher prices are causing students to go hungry or to buy unhealthy foods.
7. Due to CFB1, there may be serious health implications.
8. That colleges and universities have a responsibility to protect the welfare of their students regardless of the forum or the arena this is in.
9. That NUS represents the views and opinions of its members, no matter what forum or arena this is in.
10. That Scholarest exploit students who are already struggling financially, by putting forward very impressive business plans when bidding for contracts, and then putting process up once they have a monopoly within institutions.
11. That NUS needs to challenge this attack on students.

## Conference Resolves:

1. To mandate the VP Welfare to conduct a wide reaching survey into the activities of Scholarest.
2. That NUS will work with partner trade unions to find out what the feeling of their members is.
3. If the results of this survey prove that Scholarest is bad thing for students, the VP Welfare will publicly criticise the treatment of students by Scholarest, based on the findings of this survey.
4. NUS will start a national campaign based on these findings, including a local campaigning toolkit that is accessible to both FE and HE institutions.
5. To mandate the VP Welfare to conduct broader research of the major providers of catering and commercial services on campuses across the country, paralleled with that of the research into Scholarest.
6. The research into these providers must clearly highlight the financial and health impacts on students.



4. Sixteen year old students cannot formally shape the way in which their education is governed by the political parties
5. The Youth Citizenship Commission (YCC) has initiated a consultation on young people, citizenship engagement and lowering the voting age

Conference Further Believes:

1. NUS has been a vocal partner in the Votes at 16 coalition, and a leading voice on the
2. Youth Citizenship Commission
3. Votes at 16 has been introduced in other countries; Austria and Jersey have recently expanded the franchise to sixteen year olds
4. The Power Report and the Councillors Commission Report recommended the voting age should be lowered to 16
5. Two of the three major parties; Labour and the Liberal Democrats have pledged to introduce Votes at 16 in their upcoming manifestos
6. Lowering the voting age has the power to reinvigorate young people, captivating those that feel disempowered and excluded from the political process

Conference Resolves:

1. To continue to play a crucial role in the success of this campaign by:
  - Lobbying to get Votes at 16 incorporated into the manifestos of all the main political parties for the next general election
  - Calling for radical changes to the way in which citizenship education is taught within the national curriculum
  - Holding debates on campuses highlighting why NUS believes votes at 16 should be introduced
  - Support students' unions to introduce polling booths on campuses
  - Working with further education colleges to get students who wish to vote to contact their MP prior to the next general election demanding a change in the law
  - Continuing to make recommendations within the YCC calling for broader changes to our electoral system, with the aim of engaging more young people in the political process

**Amendment 801b**

**ADD AMENDMENT**

**Heading:** **Beat the BNP**  
**Submitted by:** **Manchester University**  
**Speech for:** **Manchester University (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:** **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:** **Manchester University (1 min)**

Conference Believes

1. Students represent a significant proportion of the voting public both at local, general and European elections.
2. Voting constitutes an important act of citizenship.
3. Many local representatives are able to ignore the issues and concerns of student constituents as they are often not a vocal nor visible force at the polls.
4. NUS's work around students in the community would be greatly enhanced by greater mobilisation of the student vote.

Conference Further Believes

1. In recent years the BNP and other far right parties have aggressively pursued electoral success.
2. That turnout in European elections is generally quite low, and that mobilising an anti-fascist vote within the student movement could make all the difference.
3. Students have an important role in challenging racism on campuses and throughout society. NUS should support students racism and facism, defending civil liberties, abd celebrating multiculturalism.

Conference Resolves

1. To work with anti-Fascist campaigns including Hope Not Hate, Unite against Fascism, Searchlight Magazine and Love Music Hate Racism to stop the BNP from gaining a seat in the European Parliament.
2. Continue supporting Rise Against Racism Student Week and work to make this a national initiative.
3. For the NEC to work with Student Action for Refugees, and others, to support student refugees.

**Speech Against:** **Free (1 min)**  
**Summation:** **(1 min)**

**Motion:** 802  
**Heading:** Students Want to Go Green  
**Submitted by:** Plymouth, Keele, University of Bristol, City College Plymouth

**Speech for:** Keele University (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** City College Plymouth (1 min)

#### Conference Believes

1. There are many initiatives aimed at greening students' unions, such as the Sound Impact Awards and the Carbon Academy
2. There are many initiatives aimed at greening universities and colleges, such as the Green League, the Green Gown Awards and programs run by the EAUC
3. Too few students recognise the role of students' unions and NUS in challenging destructive climate change
4. Many students take action on destructive climate change, from reusing bottles of milk, reducing the wattage of light bulbs and recycling clothes
5. NUS has a key role in enabling students to take local action, improving their local society, to providing national opportunities to involve themselves in national campaigns
6. Destructive climate change is the biggest threat to our generation
7. NUS' support for the campaign to reduce CO2 emissions in the UK by 80% by 2050 demonstrates to students that we are taking action at a national level
8. The cost, and availability, of public transport is prohibitive for students to reduce their carbon footprint
9. Institution are emitting 12.3 million tonnes of CO2 every year and this doesn't include the million more emitted by people travelling to and from them.

#### Conference Further Believes

1. Many of our members are already active on this issue, but everyone has a responsibility to change behaviour and become green
2. The behaviour of students over the duration of their course is shaped by their first few weeks at College and University
3. NUS should use its national influence to pressure all Colleges to improve their environmental performance.
4. Working with People and Planet we can alter individual behaviour amongst our members whilst also campaigning for bigger changes within our Colleges.
5. NUS should support student officers in looking at their own students' unions environmental performance.

#### Conference Resolves

1. Organise a National Go Green Week in the first academic term
2. The week will emphasise local action, enabling students' unions to show they are leading green initiatives
3. Lobby devolved Governments and Councils to recognise the commitment of students to shape and change their local community; empowering students and students' unions to campaign for improved local recycling facilities
4. Campaign for more Information, Advice & Guidance to prospective and new students on how they can be proactively 'go green' during their course
5. Support the work of Student Switch Off campaign which encourages students in halls to compete to reduce their energy consumption
6. Lobby for improvements in public transport to reduce car usage amongst students
7. To mandate the VP Society and Citizenship and VPFE to lobby sector bodies for tougher carbon reduction targets for FE Colleges.
8. In partnership with People and Planet encourage more students unions in FE to participate in the national Go Green Week.
9. NUS to share examples of best practice within the FE sector- highlighting how successful campaigns on better recycling, energy efficiency, and strong environmental policies.
10. NUS to provide more information to FE SU's to help students alter their behaviour to reduce the negative environmental impact.

**Motion:** 803  
**Heading:** Improving HE in Iraq  
**Submitted by:** Bradford, SOAS, Sheffield, Leeds, Queen Mary Un Conference Believes

**Speech for:** Sheffield University (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Sheffield University (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Before the war on Iraq, the Iraqi education system was the best in the region with: Gross Enrolment Rates rising over 100%, having almost complete gender parity in enrolment. With illiteracy rates among 15-45 years of age dropping below 10%. Dropout/Repetition rates were the lowest in the Middle East and North Africa [MENA] region.
2. During the crisis years, 1990-2003: As Gross income declined, resources for education suffered a great deal. Average Government Spending, on education, per student dropped from \$620 to \$47. Teachers' salaries dropped in real terms, from \$500-\$1000/month to \$5/month in 2003. Gender gap increased, 95% Male and 80% Female. The dropout rate reached 20% [31% Female, 18% Male]. The repetition rate reached a figure that is double that of the MENA region, 15%.
3. After the 2003 invasion: About 70% of schools/Universities lack clean water and latrines. Poor quality of inputs include: science labs, libraries, equipment, an outdated curriculum, lack of teacher training and staff absenteeism. Education personnel were targeted, kidnapped, attacked, and or killed. Teacher absenteeism and that of girls in education reached a high level, due to the security threat. 2751 institutions were damaged severely and require rehabilitation, 2400 experienced looting. Around 20,000 teachers have been displaced. Around 320,000 students have been displaced. The Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education reported that over 3,250 academics had fled the country between February and August 2006. According to the Iraqi Association of University Lecturers, around 300 academics, including Ph.D.'s working in Iraqi government ministries and university administrators, had been killed before January 2007, around 70 have been threatened/kidnapped.

Conference Resolves

1. To send a copy of this motion to the University of Mosul Student Union, inviting them to twin with UK Student Unions
2. To lobby Universities to provide bursaries for Iraqi students who wish to study at UK universities
3. To set up a national 'Books for Iraq' Campaign
4. To send old books from University Libraries to the University of Mosul, with the aid of organisations such as Human Relief Foundation.

**Amendment:** 803a  
**ADD AMENDMENT**  
**Heading:** Disaffiliate from Stop the War Coalition  
**Submitted by:** University of Manchester Students' Union

**Speech for:** University of Manchester (2 min)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** University of Manchester (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That there is a humanitarian crisis in Iraq that needs urgently addressing.
2. The aggressive tactics of Stop the War Coalition have created division within this Union and have diverted attention away from progressive humanitarian organisations.
3. That the Human Relief Foundation is a good example of a progressive organisation which seeks to bring communities together.

Conference Resolves:

1. To disaffiliate from Stop the War coalition, and divert all attentions to alleviating the humanitarian crises in Iraq through the use of progressive organisations.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 803b  
**Heading:** Afghanistan and the spread of war  
**Submitted by:** UEL, Middlesex, Sheffield Hallam, Dunstable College, Staffordshire, Goldsmiths, City University, Essex, Birkbeck

**Speech for:** Middlesex University (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Goldsmiths College (1 min)

Conference believes:

1. The further the US economy moves into crisis the more pressure there is for any US government to use its overwhelming military power to settle disputes.
2. NATO expansion, the war in Georgia and the commitment to fight "the good war" in Afghanistan are the bloody result of the attempt to maintain US global dominance.
3. Over 1 million Afghans have lost their lives as a result of war over the last 30 years yet both the UK and US governments are committed to sending more troops into the country.
4. The US had spent over £110 billion on the war in Afghanistan by the end of 2008 but only 10 billion of the 16 billion in aid payments had been received. 4 billion of the aid went to western companies for failed "reconstruction projects."
5. Over the winter of 2008 8.4 million Afghans faced starvation and 30 million live in severe poverty.
6. That there was no resistance in Afghanistan immediately after the invasion. The reality of NATO's occupation has created a resistance out of the same localised forces which had fought the Russian occupation.
7. That the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are spreading instability across the region.

Conference further believes:

1. That the links between Afghanistan and West Pakistan are creating tensions in Pakistan.
2. The US army has already launched cross border operations to try and hold its position in Afghanistan. This has created a crisis for Pakistan's rulers, torn between support for the US and anti-imperialist sentiment at home.
3. The Pakistani government has forced almost 300'000 Afghan refugees back into Afghanistan.
4. If the US continues to engage in operations in Pakistan it could provoke a civil war.
5. That unless we can force our governments in the west to withdraw from Afghanistan and Iraq we will continue to pay the bloody price for their "new world order."

Conference resolves:

1. To affiliate to the Stop the War Coalition
2. To support the "No to NATO" protest in France on April 3rd alongside the Stop the War Coalition, Noam Chomsky and others.
3. To support the call for the withdrawal of all troops from Afghanistan.
4. To organise and promote with stop the war a series of events on campuses to highlight the reality of the occupation.
5. To also condemn oppressive regimes, including the misogynistic Taliban.

**Motion:** 804  
**Heading:** Fight ID Cards for International Students  
**Submitted by:** Surrey University, Reading University, Aberdeen College, Liverpool Guild, UWE, KCLSU, Leeds Metropolitan University  
**Speech for:** Surrey University (2 mins)

Conference Believes:

1. Under the Identity Card Act 2006 the government introduced legislation that would enable the government to put in place a National Identity Scheme (NIS).
2. This scheme would involve the creation of a National Identity Register and the enabling of an ID Card system, on a voluntary basis.
3. That it was leaked in January 2008 from the Home Office that the scheme would be trialled on young people by 2010.
4. That once an individual has applied for an ID card they are on the NIR for ever.
5. Storing biometric information on students due to their nationality is also highly discriminatory and unfair.
6. That the government are using the slogan "locks you in to a single identity"
7. Forcing Universities to check if particular students based on the nationality are attending lecture through a "Sponsorship Managements Program" is also highly discriminatory and unfair on those students

Conference Further Believes:

1. That the data-base state and, in particular, ID Cards are an intrusion by the state on the lives on individuals.
2. The NIS changes the nature of the individual to the state. The NIR should not be used to track individuals on the presumption that they may do something wrong.
3. That the intended outcome of these policies is to prevent students applying for student Visa's using "fake" universities as their intended destination will not be acheived by these measures and that they are inherently discriminatory. That this outcome could be solved in much simpler ways. i.e. having a list of all the educational institutions to check against.

Conference Resolves:

1. Mandate the VP Soc/Cit, International Students Campaign and the VP HE to lobby institutions and the government, opposing the trialling of ID cards on international
2. That the NUS will call for unions to lobby their institutions to write to the foreign secretary opposing ID cards for international students.
3. To Mandate the NEC to campaign to at the least make ID cards' for international students free.
4. That NUS will affiliate to No2ID for the cost of £40.
5. To oppose any future decisions to force students to carry ID cards to apply for student loans or to open bank accounts.
6. To oppose any form of "Sponsorship Management Program" being implemented that discriminates based on nationality
7. To support the work carried out by the NUS International Students Campaign.

**Amendment** 804a  
**Heading:** Campaign Against Immigration Changes for International Students  
**Submitted by:** Loughborough Students' Union  
**Speech for:** Loughborough Students Union  
**Speech against:** Free  
**Summation:** Loughborough Students' Union

Conference believes:

1. That the Govt has proposed dramatic changes to the Immigration rules for international students
2. That the NUS International Student Campaign has been working on the changes for many years and responded formally to the proposals
3. That the new immigration rules and regulations are already in place from the end of March 2009

Conference further believes:

1. That the new immigration changes are highly discriminative to international students not residing in the EU countries
2. That the immigration changes include international students being forced to have ID cards, being monitored upon, being tied down to one university and to have a minimum of £600-800 per month.
3. That the NUS must campaign not only against ID cards fro international students but the whole immigration proposals imposed on international students

Conference resolves:

1. To mandate the NEC to prioritise on campaigning against the changes to immigration rules that are imposed on international students
2. To carry on lobbying MPs and relevant bodies against the whole system which is detrimental to international students
3. To support the work carried out by the NUS International Student Campaign.

**Amendment:** 804b  
**Heading:** **Opposing ID Cards for Foreign Nationals (II)**  
**Submitted by:** **Coventry University, City College Norwich, University of Birmingham, Edinburgh University, University of Bristol**  
**Speech for:** **City College Norwich (2 mins)**  
**Speech against:** **Free (2 mins)**  
**Summation:** **City College Norwich (1 min)**

Conference Believes:

1. The government are currently pushing for the introduction of compulsory ID Cards.
2. The ID card scheme represents a serious infringement on civil liberties; arguments that ID cards are necessary for the fight against terrorism are unjustified.
3. ID cards are likely to be destructive in the efforts to improve community relations, with citizens forced to carry and produce identification at demand.
4. Arguments that ID cards can help improve efficiency in public services are not tenable in a voluntary ID card scheme.

Conference Further Believes:

1. The cost of the ID card system is spiralling out of control, with the latest government figures suggesting £4.4bn.
2. NUS repeatedly voiced serious outrage about young people and foreign nationals being used as guinea pigs in the ID scheme.
3. NUS has voiced serious opposition to any ID card scheme which requires students to obtain a card to apply to University/ College, to receive a student loan, or open a bank account.

Conference Resolves:

1. Students Unions should work with local No2ID groups to voice student opposition.
2. Students unions should contact local councils, local MP's, Principals and Vice Chancellors outlining opposition to the introduction of ID cards to international students and young people.
3. NUS lead national opposition to any attempts to introduce incentives for the card which 'force' students to adopt a card in order to carry out everyday activities.

**Speech Against:** **Free (1 min)**  
**Summation:** **(1 min)**

**Motion:** 805  
**Heading:** Our House in the middle of the street  
**Submitted by:** City College Plymouth, Peterborough Regional College

**Speech for:** City College Plymouth (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Peterborough Regional College (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Community Organisations are groups set up and managed autonomously by volunteers
2. These groups often meet monthly to discuss issues such as the environment, anti-social behaviour, local facilities and events
3. Community Organisations fund themselves by small annual membership fees and donations and usually meet in church halls or community centres
4. Students are key members of the community
5. Community Matters is a National Federation of Community Organisations which supports these groups by providing training, policy guidance and support
6. There are over 1000 Community Organisations supported by Community Matters
7. These associations are often consulted by local MPs and local authorities on major issues such as planning and campaigning priorities.
8. Citizenship Education is inadequate and doesn't do enough to inspire people to be active in their local community.
9. Our colleges are fertile ground for helping people to recognise the contribution they can make to their neighbourhood.
10. Being an active citizen requires opportunities to take responsibility as well as information on your rights.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Students are severely under-represented on these groups
2. As key members of the community, students deserve a say in the issues that affect their local area and what gets done about them
3. That being seen to take active measures on these local issues will help to tackle studentification and negative stereotypes attached to students in some communities
4. FE (and HE) Institutions should be taking active steps in promoting Community Cohesion amongst it's student population
5. That involvement in these groups offers significant opportunities to shape local policy and initiatives based on the needs of students as well as opportunities for students to volunteer on management committees
6. NUS through the Citizen 16 campaign highlighted the importance of providing young people with the opportunity to shape their community.
7. Volunteering can provide people with new experiences, skills and new networks for further personal and professional development.

Conference Resolves:

1. To launch a national campaign encouraging colleges, education providers, universities and local authorities to do more to get students involved in community organisations
2. To mandate the Society and Citizenship Convener to develop resources for Students' Unions to use to raise the profile of Community Organisations on campus and encourage participation by working closely with "Community matters."
3. That the Society and Citizenship Convener will work closely with the VPFE and VPHE in ensuring that participation is encouraged across the membership of NUS and the positive outcomes for students and their communities are heavily promoted
4. That throughout this campaign, students and Students' Unions are encouraged to work in partnership with other local groups and associations to set up Community Associations where they do not exist.
5. To work with national volunteering organisations to provide students within FE more opportunities to volunteer in their local community.
6. Mandate the VP Society and Citizenship and VP Union Development to organise national and local activities for Volunteering week to celebrate and increase student and students' union participation.
7. NUS to work in partnership with the TUC on a Community Day campaign, calling on the Government to introduce a national bank holiday for volunteering.

**Motion:** 806  
**Heading:** Campaigning against Mosquito Boxes  
**Submitted by:** Durham University, Lancaster University, Plymouth University  
**Speech For:** Durham University (2 mins)  
**Speech Against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Durham University (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. That mosquito boxes are devices that emit ultra-high frequency sounds and that the sound emitted is designed to be irritating and intolerable.
2. That numerous councils have actually banned the use of mosquito boxes on their buildings.
3. That the Children's Commissioner for England, the UK Youth Parliament and Liberty have all spoken out and campaigned against the use of mosquito boxes.
4. Mosquito Boxes are only one example of a continuing demonisation of young people for the acts of a minority of individuals who cause nuisance or criminal activity.
5. Solutions which have sought to address the consequence and not the cause of anti social behaviour have been ineffective in limiting or eradicating undesirable behaviour.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That mosquito boxes emit sounds that only young people can hear (90% of under 25's should be able to hear, 90% of over 25's shouldn't).
2. That mosquito boxes have been used by local councils, police and businesses with the sole intent of moving young people away from certain areas.
3. That the use of mosquito boxes is discriminatory against young people, and hence will be discriminatory against the majority of students.
4. Many young people have no to little local youth services to pre-occupy their time with.
5. Volunteering opportunities for young people can help individuals acquire skills, aspire to succeed, whilst also limiting anti social behaviour caused through boredom.
6. It is harder for people to gain employment after receiving a criminal record.

Conference Resolves:

1. To work with other youth organisations in calling for large scale investment in local youth services.
2. Identify and build partnerships with campaigning organisations who seek to reform the criminal justice system to help young people rehabilitate and gain access to education and employment.
3. To work with students unions within further education to identify case studies about the effects measures like ASBO's and mosquito boxes have had on our own members.
4. For NUS to campaign to ban the use of mosquito boxes upon human rights, civil liberties grounds and age discrimination.

**Motion:** 807  
**Heading:** Ethical Investments in Universities and Colleges  
**Submitted by:** National Executive Committee  
**Speech for:** NEC (2 mins)

Conference Believes

1. NUS has built up effective partnerships with ethical investment campaigning organisations like; People and Planet and CAAT
2. Many institutions divested from investment in tobacco companies in the last decade due to ethical concerns.
3. Universities and Colleges are publicly funded and should therefore reflect the ethical values of the students, staff and wider community. A broad review of ethical investment is needed to ensure institutions meet the values.
4. Ethical reviews should consider the funding currently received from research grants from any company/sector deemed to be unethical in terms of investments.
5. That a number of its constituent members have shares in, or openly support by selling merchandise from, companies that do not represent good ethical practice, such as Cobham, plc. or Nestlé.
6. That companies that are predominantly exporters of arms are able to sell these arms to regimes that have no regard for human rights or human rights records
7. That selling merchandise or products on behalf of a company such as Nestlé, who have ethically questionable practices is tantamount to an unethical investment.
8. That students at other UK universities such as SOAS, Goldsmiths and Bangor have successfully campaigned for divestment of their respective institutions' unethical shares and that divestment is an issue of national student interest.

## Conference Further Believes:

1. Students are members of their University or College. They should be aware of where investments are currently held, involved in forming ethical investment policies, and crucially reviewing investments against these criteria's.
2. Tough financial circumstances and the volatility in the financial sector should encourage Universities to seek alternative forms of investment, like investments in alternative forms of energy.
3. That allowing constituent members to support unethical institutions is damaging to those members' and NUS' reputations and undermines their values of social justice.
4. That ethical investment is as financially profitable as investment in arms or other ethically-questionable organisations.

## Conference Resolves:

1. Working with Ethical Investment Research Service (EIRIS) conduct some further research into the current ethical practices of some of the companies Universities and Colleges have investments in.
2. Capture models ethical investment policies, working with students unions to implement them in Colleges and Universities nationwide.
3. Lobby national academic trade unions to ensure an ethical approach to investments linked to staff pension schemes.
4. Provide student officers who sit on governing bodies with training and advice on lobbying for ethical investment policies and practices.
5. To lobby and support constituent members to ensure that they or their parent institutions do not support or invest in companies with poor or no ethical records.

**Amendment:** 807a  
**Heading:** Make Our Colleges Fair Trade  
**Submitted by:** Castle College Nottingham  
**Speech for:** Castle College, Nottingham (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Castle College, Nottingham (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Unfair trade rules squeeze poor farmers in the developing world out of business and into further poverty.
2. Half the world live on less than one pound a day. Trade could help lift these people out of poverty but the rules that govern trade are not fair.
3. Fairtrade guarantees producers a price for their produce which never falls below the cost of production; the mark guarantees rights for producers.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Fairtrade fortnight, from 23rd of February to 8th March 2009 was a successful fortnight of events with students campaigning for fair and just trade
2. There are now over 70 Fairtrade colleges and Universities in the UK.
3. There are five goals to achieve fair-trade status- a fair-trade policy, fair-trade food and drinks sold in outlets, fair-trade goods served at all meetings, a ongoing commitment to campaign for increased fair-trade consumption on campus, and a fair-trade steering group is established.

Conference Resolves:

1. Lobby the UK education sector bodies ensuring there is a greater commitment to fair trading practices.
2. Provide advice on helping SU's lobby their colleges to apply for fair trade status and get involved with fair-trade fortnight
3. Mandate the VP Society and Citizenship and VP Union Development to push for more fair-trade products within students unions.
4. To promote the annual fair-trade Universities and Colleges conference, and Youth for Fairtrade conference to members.

**Amendment:** 807b  
**Heading:** Ethical Labelling  
**Submitted by:** University of East Anglia, Sussex University  
**Speech for:** University of East Anglia (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Sussex University (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. NUS is an ethical organisation that has a responsibility to stand up for its beliefs about human and animal rights, environmental sustainability and ethical investment, as reflected in various policies already in place.
2. That a system of ethical labelling, using data from 'The Good Shopping Guide', is currently being successfully used in outlets of the Union of UEA Students.
3. There is interest from other students' unions in joining a larger group of unions who promote educating our members about the ethical implications of their consumption.
4. That a national system of ethical labelling would be most efficiently administered by NUSSL centrally.

Conference Further Believes:

1. The 'bottom line' of profit is what drives companies and thus economic sanctions against companies are a major tool in protecting the disempowered majority of the world's population.
2. Boycotts work at one level, but actively educating members about the product choices they make may lead to personal boycotts that will extend beyond student life.
3. The student movement should be actively engaged in highlighting and safe guarding the human rights of people without voices throughout the world.
4. Ethical labelling will only serve to strengthen the policies already put in place by NUS.
5. Students should be encouraged to make an informed decision about what they buy.
6. That by creating a quantitative guide, improvements in ethical performance will be quantifiable and measurable.
7. That by encouraging positive substitution, student unions will not loose out ether monetarily or in footfall (as shown by UEA).

Conference resolves:

1. For NUSSL to centrally co-ordinate a system of ethical labelling for products that are sold through students' unions using data from 'The Good Shopping Guide', and indicating an ethical rating of products with a simple traffic lights system.
2. To work with the "Good Shopping Guide" to code and rank as many goods that NUSSL sells as possible.
3. To assist student unions in rating their own goods not sourced through NUSSL.
4. To provide logistical support to help integrate this system with pre-existing EPOS systems.
5. For NUSSL to supply student unions with all the relevant POS materials needed to put the labelling system in place.
6. To use the points system as a benchmark for measuring the success of constructive engagement.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 808  
**Heading:** Global Solidarity with Students  
**Submitted by:** Westminster Adults Education Service  
**Speech for:** Westminster Adults Education Service (2 mins)

Conference Believes

1. What happens to students in other countries impacts upon students in the UK
2. NUS has created and developed substantial relationships with National Unions in other countries – mainly across Europe, and in Canada, Australia, Zimbabwe & South Africa
3. The purpose of our international solidarity work is to have a meaningful, lasting impact on the lives of students, shaping and improving society in line with our values.
4. Many students are involved in global solidarity movements separate from the activities and campaigns in their students' unions
5. Other organisations are better placed to provide expertise to direct NUS campaigns and activities, but conference recognises NUS can play an important role in enhancing global solidarity movements by ensuring our members are well informed.

Conference Further Believes

1. As an educational campaigning organisation we should welcome the Millennium Development Goal of universal access to primary education, and should support movements which aim to ensure this pledge is fulfilled.
2. We have a role in continuing to highlight to our government and the international community the important role of further and higher education in international initiatives affecting the developing world.
3. Solidarity takes many different forms- from offering words of support to raising money for financial assistance. Each of these are important in their own right.
4. As a long standing, well developed national union we can offer advice and guidance on enhancing the role and influence of national students unions in other countries, along with gaining crucial insight to improve our own structures, processes and campaigns.

Conference Resolves

1. Put together a guide on how student activists are treated around the world, detailing where students are persecuted because of their involvement in students unions.
2. Provide clear guidance on how students' unions and students can effectively campaign for our partners overseas.
3. Publicise opportunities for our activists to take part in speakers tours in other countries to gain a better understanding of the situations students face in Southern Africa, Colombia and beyond.
4. NUS should organise groups of students' unions to work with national and local students' unions abroad
5. Establish a structured campaign action so students can show their support for individual student activists who have been subject to false imprisonment, torture or political oppression
6. Work with organisations who place students on gap year or voluntary placements abroad so that UK students are engaging in local schools, colleges and universities whilst on placement.

**Amendment:** 808a  
**Heading:** Solidarity with Gaza  
**Submitted by:** Cranfield University, University of East London, City University, SOAS, Coventry University, University of Middlesex, Staffordshire University, Goldsmiths College, Essex University, Sheffield Hallam University, London Southbank University,

**Speech for:** Goldsmiths College (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Free (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Israel's invasion of Gaza led to the deaths of over 1300 Palestinians, including 400 children, and injured over 5000. Thirteen Israelis were killed, including three civilians.
2. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has condemned the blockade for depriving Palestinians of their "most basic human rights" and causing "massive humanitarian."
3. The Islamic University of Gaza was bombed, destroying buildings and severely disrupting the education of more than 20,000 students enrolled there.
4. That the massacre of over 1300 in Gaza is the result of a bombardment by one of the most heavily armed states on the planet against one of the most densely populated ghettos in the world.
5. The Israeli government has been left free to act because of the acquiescence of western leaders and the background of the "war on terror."
6. That all this takes place as a result of 60 years of occupation and oppression of the Palestinian people backed by the Western states.
7. That the student solidarity movement for Gaza has been one of the biggest in a generation including over 25 student occupations and sit-ins.
8. The International Committee of the Red Cross described the situation in Gaza as a 'full-blown humanitarian crisis'. Amnesty International has criticised Israel's use of white phosphorus, which if used against civilians constitutes a war crime.
9. More than 80% of Gazans are dependent on UN food aid, which itself is often insufficient to meet their needs. Supplies of many vital medicines have run out and cannot be replaced due to the blockade.
10. Palestinians are prevented from leaving Gaza even for urgent medical treatment. This has led to the deaths of over two hundred Palestinians, and has been condemned by Amnesty International.
11. Israel's occupation is in violation of international law and over 80 UN resolutions. The blockade of Gaza is collective punishment of people under occupation, and also violates international law.
12. Over 20 universities have been occupied by students protesting against Israel's actions. These occupations have resulted in universities providing scholarships for Palestinian students, organising fundraising for Gaza, and donating academic materials to Palestinian universities.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Students have a responsibility to speak out for peace and justice and to call for International law to be upheld. The implementation of international law, and an end to the illegal occupation is the only basis for peace for both Palestinians and Israelis.
2. NUS refusal to criticise Israel's actions, or even acknowledge the number of those killed and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza is not representative of students' views.
3. That the Palestinians have a right to resist the occupation and decide their own future.
4. That the Palestinian "state" is completely at the mercy of the Israeli government which has broken up the democratically elected government of Palestine.
5. There is no equivalence between the two sides. We must base our position on solidarity with the people of Palestine.

Conference Resolves:

1. Lobby the British government to call on Israel to end the siege of Gaza, abide by international law and end its illegal occupation.
2. To support students following through the demands of the occupations. (Scholarships for Palestinian students, donating spare equipment to Gaza, support fundraising for Gaza, disinvestment from arms companies).
3. Work with Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Jewish Students for Justice for Palestinians and others to raise awareness of the impact of Israel's war on Gaza, the ongoing siege, and the occupation.
4. Circulate information to students' unions on the UN International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.
5. To support future protests over Palestine by the Stop the War Coalition and Palestine Solidarity campaign.

**Amendment:** 808b  
**Heading:** Defend Palestinians' Right to Education  
**Submitted by:** Coventry University, London Southbank University, Cranfield University, University of East London, City University, SOAS, Middlesex University, Sheffield Hallam, Staffordshire University, Goldsmiths College, Essex University

**Speech for:** Southbank University (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Southbank University (1 min)

Conference Believes:

1. Hundreds of Palestinian students with places to study at universities around the world are trapped in Gaza as a consequence of Israel's blockade of Gaza.
2. Many students have scholarships to study abroad, which are now threatened as they have not been able to leave Gaza to study.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Last year NUS correctly supported Khaled Al-Mudallal, a Palestinian student who was trapped in Gaza and prevented from returning to his studies at Bradford University.
2. The occupation severely disrupts Palestinian students access to education. 80% of Palestinians experience difficulty in daily activities including travel, and many are prevented from attending university by the closure of military checkpoints.

Conference Resolves:

1. Lobby the British government to call on Israel to end its siege of Gaza and allow all Palestinian students with places at universities to leave Gaza.
2. Support Let Palestinians Study, which campaigns for students currently trapped in Gaza.
3. To encourage Students' Unions to twin with Palestinian Universities.
4. Support universities taking practical steps to assist the people of Gaza, including providing scholarships and sending books and other equipment.
5. Work with Palestine Solidarity Campaign and Jewish Students for Justice for Palestinians to raise awareness of the occupation's impact, including Palestinian students' right to education.

**Speech Against:** Free (1 min)  
**Summation:** (1 min)

**Motion:** 809  
**Heading:** Justice for Colombia  
**Submitted by:** Swansea Metropolitan  
**Speech for:** Swansea Metropolitan (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Swansea Metropolitan (1 min)

Conference Believes

1. Colombia is the most dangerous place in the world to be a Trade Unionist
2. That the number of state sponsored, politically motivated murders of journalists, politicians, trade unionists and student leaders has increased dramatically over the last few years
3. That the UK Government continues to provide military aid to the Colombian Government
4. That NUS is currently making a joint submission to the Foreign Affairs Select Committee on the human rights abuses faced by Colombian students

Conference Further Believes

1. That the right to organise within a workplace, a community or a student body is unalienable
2. That students who chose to fight for a fairer future are at serious risk of imprisonment, torture and death in Colombia
3. That Colombian students are forced to drop out of university in order to protect their families from targeted and systematic abuse, the price of speaking out against the Government

Conference Resolves

1. To lobby the Government to stop providing military aid to Colombia, until it rectifies the gross human rights abuses currently taking place
2. To highlight the Justice for Colombia campaign and provide clear advice as to how student unions can campaign on this issue

3. To publish on the website campaign materials that can be used by students to lobby the UK Government and campaign for change in Colombia
4. Work with Justice for Colombia and other organisations to develop a facility to highlight the plight of political prisoners and encourage unions to engage in letter writing campaigns.

**Motion:** 810  
**Heading:** Action for Southern Africa- A Focus on Swaziland's Students  
**Submitted by:** Portsmouth, Swansea Metropolitan, Glasgow Metropolitan, University of the West of England, Liverpool Guild of Students

**Speech for:** Swansea Metropolitan University (2 mins)  
**Speech against:** Free (2 mins)  
**Summation:** Liverpool Guild of Students (1 min)

Conference believes:

1. Swaziland is ruled by the last remaining absolute monarch in Africa, and political parties have been banned since 1973 since which point the country has been in a state of emergency, the longest running in the world. In addition, much of the parliament, judiciary and media are single-handedly controlled by the King.
2. Members of student and trade unions, as well as other civic and political groups, are systematically oppressed and reproached for their beliefs and affiliations.
3. The recently enacted Suppression of Terrorism Act 2008 (STA), brands certain groups, including the People's United Democratic Movement (PUDEMO) and its youth wing SWAYOCO as terrorist organizations.
4. Amnesty International has condemned the STA concluding that the its provisions 'threaten human rights, are inherently repressive, breach Swaziland's obligations under international and regional human rights laws and the Swaziland Constitution, and are already leading to violations of the rights of freedom of expression, association and assembly.'
5. Approximately 40% of the population of Swaziland lives with HIV / AIDS and life expectancy is estimated at 39 years; children and youth have been among those most affected.
6. The UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) detail commitments to combat HIV, AIDS, and malaria.
1. Swaziland is regarded as a middle income country, yet the majority of the population is living in abject poverty with approximately 70% of the population living on less than \$1USD a day.

Conference further believes:

1. The Swaziland United Democratic Front (SUDF) was formed in 2008 as a coalition of civic and political groups to fight for multi-party democracy in Swaziland.
2. The Swaziland National Students' Union, whilst legally legitimate, faces harassment and repression, despite which they are an active part of the newly formed SUDF.
3. Members of SWAYOCO (Swaziland Youth Congress) have been persecuted and killed by the state machinery with many having been forced into exile, many in South Africa and the UK.
4. Swaziland is regarded as 'the next Zimbabwe' by many political commentators and members of Swazi civil society. Despite this, international media and governments have ignored Swaziland, often distracted by the events in Zimbabwe and other African countries.
5. Action for Southern Africa (ACTSA) is working with trade and students' unions to highlight the critical situation in Swaziland and is the leading British NGO doing so.

Conference resolves:

1. To mandate the National President to send letters of solidarity to the Swaziland National Students' Union, SWAYOCO and the SUDF and take urgent actions as necessary.
2. To affiliate to and work in partnership with ACTSA to campaign for the end of autocratic rule in Swaziland and an immediate end to all forms of repression, especially against students.
3. To mandate the National President to write to the British Government, the Commonwealth and the European Commission asking them to publicly condemn the lack of democracy in Swaziland and commit to not hosting royal visits until basic democratic measures are introduced and implemented.
4. To support the work and campaigns of Medsin and Stop Aids on international funding for global health programs.
5. To increase NUS' involvement in World AIDS Day event, and encourage every students union to do something to mark the annual event
6. For the VP Society and Citizenship to work with ACTSA to ensure that UK students are kept informed of the situation in Swaziland.
7. To support ACTSA's work by encouraging students' unions to lobby the UK government about this issue.



3. That the NUS supports Fairtrade

Conference Resolves:

1. NUS will not purchase clothing made by Fruit of the Loom
2. That the NUS Vice President Society and Citizenship will raise awareness of this issue
3. That the NUS will work with NUSSL to investigate the case of the Honduran factory
4. Will support Students' Unions who wish to boycott Fruit of the Loom

**Motion:** 903  
**Heading:** Save Students Money Now!! It Must Be Finally Time to SAY NO TO 0870!  
**Submitted by:** Birkbeck College Students' Union

**Speech For:** Birkbeck College Students' Union  
**Speech Against:**  
**Summation:** Birkbeck College Students' Union

Conference Believes:

1. Since 2005, OfCom, the Office of the Communications Regulator in the UK has held a number of 'consultations' on charges of the non-geographic Number Translation Service (NTS) telephone numbers which start '08'.
2. OfCom has also investigated the proliferation of premium rate and other fixed rate '08' numbers, notably being used by unscrupulous companies to extort money from customers, most famously, the BBC and ITV have fallen foul of running lines after competition lines have actually closed.
3. Aside from organisations who wish to adopt a Freephone 0800 number, they are used either to raise extra cash or to provide a Lo-Call rate for anywhere in the UK.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Many students regularly have to dial '08' numbers to get hold of their Bank, the Student Loans Company, their LEA, Government Departments, NHS Direct and even in some cases their College, University or SU/NUS!
2. From mobile phones the rates are significantly higher than from a landline, with even Freephone numbers being charged at around 35 pence per minute.
3. Students, both young and old, rely on mobile communication, which is especially necessary for student parents, carers, disabled students and single students, especially women, moving around.
4. OfCom's most recent reports, published in early 2009, have again failed short of proper regulation of '08' numbers, simply requiring '08' organisations to have tiny writing and lightning-speed statements once a number is advertised stating its cost per minute.
5. This is particularly depressing with the rise in all '01' or '02' numbers being inclusive in most domestic landline packages, yet fewer vital organisations advertise their STD number, only their money-making '08' number.
6. OfCom has a proud history it seems of pandering to organisations and business which drain vital money from our unsuspecting members.
7. Urgent action needs to be taken by the NUS NEC and the Welfare Zone to support our members when bombarded with more and more expensive '08' numbers, particularly now with the recession deepening, more organisations will be looking to covertly pick-pocket our members.
8. The recession's effects have already seen a 40% rise in 'change of circumstance' forms being lodged at Birkbeck – action is needed now, not later to save us money.

Conference Resolves:

1. Promote widely the website [www.saynoto0870.com](http://www.saynoto0870.com)
2. Lobby all education-sector partners (SUs, Colleges, LEAs, funding councils, Government Departments and others as identified by the Welfare Zone and Liberation Campaigns, including NUS HQ) to advertise equally their STD Code number alongside their '08' number, and preferably instead of.
3. Lobby the Government to introduce Secondary Legislation to prohibit Public Bodies (as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (2002 in Scotland)) from solely advertising '08' numbers for their services and offices to the public.
4. Campaign for Freephone numbers to be free from mobile phones.
5. In all NUS campaigning and advice/event materials, to only advertise non '08' numbers, unless it is a Freephone number, in which case in addition with equal prominence.

Conference Further Resolves:

1. Simple tips saving money for students are available from 'Martin's Money Tips' on [www.moneysavingexpert.com](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com), a simple resource which shall be incorporated into the Welfare Zone, and the best tips regularly sent to SUs in the 'NUS Update' and other media.

2. Appoint VP Welfare as the 'money saving Tsar' for students for 2009/10, with target to save students collectively £75million in the next year (£10 a head) based on simple, effective communication of Tsarist Tips to save money!
  3. Ensure an ethical policy is observed when publicising or promoting a saving – e.g. no Nestlé/SubTV/McDonalds/Coke etc, as determined by the Welfare Zone Committee in line with NUS Conference Policy and all Liberation Campaign Policy.
  4. Publish the amount estimated saved to our membership in a manner determined by the Welfare Zone Committee.
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## Glossary

The follow are some of the acronyms referred to in the text of this document:

ALG	Adult Learning Grant
DPC	Democratic Procedures Committee
EMA	Education Maintenance Allowance
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education
HEI	Higher Education Institutions
HMOs	Houses with multiple occupants
IAG	Information Advice and Guidance
ILR	Individual Learner Record
LLW	London Living Wage
NEC	National Executive Committee (or Council in reference to election at conference)
NMW	National Minimum Wage
NPC	National Postgraduate Committee
RRC	Rules Revision Committee
UCAS	University College Admissions Service
UCU	University College Union
ULN	Unique Learner Number