



**LGBT Campaign Policy
2006-2010**



national union of students

Contents

Purpose of this document	2
Policy Lapse	2
What you need to do	2

Policy

Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2006	3
Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2007	15
Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2008	29
Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2009	49
Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2010	76

Purpose of this document

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

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

Policy Lapse

Policy Lapses in 2 circumstances

1. If a subsequent policy over-rides it
2. After 5 years unless LGBT Conference votes to renew it.

Policy passed at Conference 2006 will lapse at the end of LGBT Conference 2011.

What you need to do

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

If you require this document in an alternative format contact nick.smith@nus.org.uk

POLICY PASSED AT LGBT CONFERENCE 2006

This Policy lapses this year

STRONG & ACTIVE UNIONS ZONE

Heading: Blood – The fight goes on

Conference Believed:

1. The high profile campaign to change the homophobic policies of the National Blood Transfusion Services being run by the NUS Scotland LGBT campaign and Liverpool Guild LGBT.
2. The newly adopted stance of the American Red Cross which states that it is time for the American Ban on Gay blood donations to be lifted and a time limited deferral to be put in place
3. The current stance of Blood Transfusion organisations in Australia, Spain, Italy, South Africa and most recently Portugal, who all accept donations from Gay men.
4. The changing epidemiological profile of HIV/Aids which now sees infections amongst heterosexuals increasing at a much larger rate than homosexual people.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That the NUS Scotland blood day of action on march 9th was a huge success, increasing participation in the campaign and informing the public about the discrimination faced by gay and bisexual men.
2. That changes to blood donation regulations in other countries is strengthening the case for the permanent ban on gay and bisexual blood donations to be lifted in the UK.
3. That Gay and Bisexual men should be allowed to donate blood in line with other blood service regulations.
4. That a time limited deferment would be better placed to protect the nation's blood supply because it would be based upon an individual's behaviour not their sexual orientation.

Conference Resolved:

1. To continue as a priority the blood transfusion campaign using the NUS Scotland campaign as an example of good practice
2. to continue the constructive engagement with the Blood Transfusion services.
3. To continue to contact LGBT organisations abroad to share good practice and keep up to date with an ever evolving picture across the globe.
4. To work with NUS-UK LGBT, NUS Scotland LGBT and NUS Wales LGB to coordinate the campaign nationally.

Heading: Disabled LGBT Students

Conference Believed:

1. That Disabled people are often seen as asexual.
2. That Disabled people who are also LGBT face multi oppression.
3. That society is exclusive to disabled people and, in particular, the gay scene can be incredibly inaccessible.
4. That a recent study of London's gay scene found that 9 out of 10 venues were physically inaccessible and 8 out of 10 of Manchester's gay scene was physically inaccessible.
5. That the social model of disability argues that discrimination and barriers cause disability, not individual impairments.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That the LGBT campaign and the SWD campaign have recently been working hard together to ensure that the issues faced by Disabled LGBT students are considered.
2. That LGBT/SWD cross liberation work is vital for our national union to engage in.
3. That both campaigns should be congratulated for their work on this issue so far.
4. That the social model of disability is conformed to by NUS and the SWD campaign.
5. That the SWD campaign recently changed its name to 'Disabled Students Campaign' to conform to the social model of disability.

Conference Resolved:

1. To ensure that Disabled LGBT people are a significant part of one of the LGBT priority campaigns in 2006-2007.
2. To make every effort to conform to the social model of disability.
3. To empower the steering committee to change all references to 'SWD' and/or 'students with disabilities' to 'Disabled students' in the standing orders and renumber accordingly.
4. To hold a liberation workshop day in 2006 or 2007 in conjunction with the SWD campaign to educate student officers on the issues faced by Disabled LGBT people and encourage proactive campaigning on this issue.

Heading: Trans

Conference Believed:

1. That the Trans community only has 1 representative where as other liberation groups

Conference Resolved:

1. To carry out a review of all cross-liberation post and the standing orders. To empower rules revision committee to create and insert a second "Trans representative" post into our Standing Orders. To empower the Trans caucus to decide whether this is a non-franchised or a franchised women's post.
2. To send a motion to annual conference (the number 13) in line with this amendment.

Heading: FE within the LGBT Campaign

Conference Believed:

1. FE is a substantial caucus within the LGBT campaign.
2. Homophobic attitudes are often more prevalent in FE than HE
3. With 14 to 19 age brackets in college there are younger members of our community in colleges who are not represented.
4. In FE Sexual health is an issue, which is often ignored.
5. Many FE officers do not have much experience and often need higher levels of support.
6. There is a lack of relevant training for FE LGBT officers and groups
7. Many LGBT campaigns and events do not fit in well in FE and are not inclusive of the issues in FE.

Conference Further Believed:

1. The representation and involvement of FE within the Campaign is essential.
2. FE LGBT officers and groups need LGBT trainings, events and campaigns that are relevant to them and can be used in FE colleges
3. Homophobic attitudes often go unchallenged in FE
4. FE college LGBT officers and groups are often in need of support from local HEs, due to poor funding and lack of experience
5. Many LGBT social events involve alcoholic environments, which are inaccessible to many FE students
6. There has been a history within the LGBT campaign, of HE delegates patronising FE delegates and of intimidation towards FE, which is unacceptable

Conference Resolved:

1. To run a priority campaign involving FE that will increase the participation of FE colleges and work on FE specific issues.
2. To run an FE caucus day which will highlight the issues of being LGB or T in FE therefore increasing participation, raising awareness and working on issues.
3. Work alongside the FE Reps of other liberation campaigns to produce an "FE Liberation Pack"
4. To liaise with the FE caucus to ensure that campaign materials are relevant to and able to be used in FE.
5. To ensure that events run by the LGBT campaign are accessible to FE students.
6. To produce a briefing for FE LGBT groups and officers to help them campaign and highlight FE LGBT issues.
7. To include FE specific training in the training and events part of the LGBT campaign
8. To highlight both the importance of FE and what FE LGBT issues are to HEs and to encourage HE LGBT groups and officers to support FE LGBT groups and officers
9. To work towards combating homophobic attitudes in FE.

Heading: The Really Big and Important Motion

Conference Believed:

1. That successful struggles for LGBT liberation in our colleges, campuses and communities require strong and active LGBT groups in all our member unions in Further and Higher Education.
2. That too often, LGBT groups are not integrated and involved with the wider work of the students' union; many officers do not sit on the union executive, council or other decision making structures.
3. That many LGBT groups find their autonomy compromised by a misreading of ultra vires laws and a lack of autonomous decision making structures.
4. That many LGBT groups do not receive sufficient resources to undertake the wide range of work needed to support the education and welfare of its members.
5. That some LGBT groups find it difficult run vibrant campaigns where there has not been an established campaigning culture in place.
6. That in FE some students have encountered barriers to establishing LGBT groups, particularly sixth form colleges.
7. That many LGBT groups can find our democratic structures difficult to navigate and costs of participation prohibitive.
8. That the LGBT movement is still dominated by gay men; LBT women, bisexual women and trans students must also feel welcome and involved in our movement so that their needs may be addressed.
9. That we need a strong volunteers strategy, for recruiting, retaining and developing our activist volunteer base.
10. That we should organise our campaign around the four zones of work our campaign politically organises around.
11. previously we have had committee members who are based in the NW being responsible for East Anglia – this idea is ludicrous.
12. Previously finances in the campaign has wildly overspent its budget and this has almost caused a crisis point in AY 04/05.
13. A Student Unions should have targeted representation and officer positions for all liberation posts.
14. That bench marking should be part of the work that we undertake.
15. That with the advent of new rights and duties on public bodies, SU's have a duty to ensure they are listening to minority groups.
16. That every students' union should have an LGBT Officer and a functioning and funded LGBT group whose needs, issues and campaigns are central to the wider education and welfare work of the union.
17. That every students' union must understand respect our autonomy.
18. That the NUS LGBT campaign must provide clearer guidance about involvement in our democracy and campaigns.
19. Any changes to conference deadlines and arrangements should be clearly and widely communicated well in advance.

20. That concessions for LGBT groups facing financial hardship must be better advertised and explained, especially to those unions with a low attendance record.
21. That our campaign, locally and nationally, should reflect the diversity of our membership.
22. That the Black Students' Campaign has undergone many changes in the past two years that have addressed many similar changes we face in our movement.
23. There have been attacks on liberation representation at several unions across the country this year - York and St Martins (Lancaster) are examples.
24. That the National Student Training Programme had reduced amounts of Liberation involvement and representation than from previous years - making it hard to educate and build a coalition with SU Sabbaticals, who often take the lead in such restructures.

Conference Resolved:

1. To campaign for an LGBT Officer in every union, using the recent campaign by the Black Students' Campaign as best practice.
2. To produce support materials and campaigns that can be used locally to ensure the greater involvement of women, black, disabled, bisexual and Trans students within the campaign, working with the reps on committee.
3. To produce a briefing for CMs about supporting LGBT groups and respecting their autonomy.
4. The NUS LGBT Campaign should in conjunction with other liberation groups produce guidance on the legal implications of the Charity Commissions review, and , and also a best practice model of governance in SU and the role that Liberation Groups should play, and devise a minimum standard of representation that we would expect.
5. To campaigns on the local level for the status-quo until this review has been completed.
6. To write to the National Secretary and National Secretary elect to outline the concerns on the reduction of Liberation Officer Involvement in the National Training Programme and gain assurances that these will be rectified.
7. To launch an "Officer in Every Union Campaign".
8. To list those Unions that have reached the minimum standards and those who haven't on officer online - with activist guidance for how to change your local SU constitution.
9. That we should organise our campaign around the four zones of work our campaign politically organises around.

Heading: Strong & Active in the Special Regions

Conference Believed:

1. That each of the special regions of NUS, NUS Scotland, NUS Wales & NUS – USI have LGB & LGBT campaigns.
2. That students from the special regions also participate in the National LGBT campaign.
3. That the activism in the regions vary and in particular the NUS –USI LGBT campaign has not been active over the past year.
4. That the campaigns in the special regions are important and can bring a much needed Scottish, Welsh or Northern Irish context to the national campaign.
5. That NUS –USI is jointly administered by NUS UK and the Union of Students Ireland and the presidents of NUS and USI have regular meetings to discuss Northern Ireland issues.

Conference further believed:

1. That the recent homophobia and sectarianism event in Northern Ireland was a big success and a stepping stone for future activism in Northern Ireland.
2. Students in Northern Ireland face unique issues, especially the rise of homophobia which is seen as the last acceptable prejudice.
3. The LGB & LGBT Officers for NUS Scotland, NUS Wales and NUS – USI sit on the national LGBT Committee.
4. That the Union of Students Ireland has its own LGBT campaign for students in that nation.

Conference resolved:

1. To set up regular meeting between the LGBT officers of NUS UK and USI to facilitate and provide support for the LGBT campaign and officer in NUS – USI.
2. To work to include all students in national campaigns by including information relevant to local and regional campaigning.
3. For the LGBT officers to hold regular meetings with the LGB and LGBT officers of NUS Scotland, NUS Wales and NUS – USI.
4. For the LGBT officers to look into having more national events in the special nations.

Heading: Let's Get Back Together

Conference Believed:

1. The Let's Get Back Together Campaign was the first step towards unifying and strengthening our movement.
2. We must continue to build up the strength of our movement by tackling the divides that weaken us and ultimately open us up to attack.
3. The Let's Get Back Together (LGBT) campaign needs to establish a cross liberation coalition of organisations to fight outside of the campaign for greater understanding of liberation issues across the board.
4. In order to win the arguments on a grass root level unions must be fully armed with the tools to develop cross liberation groups on their campuses and in their colleges.
5. We should invite other campaigns in NUS to sign up to the Let's Get Back Together campaign.
6. The Lets Get Back Together Campaign needs to expand and develop.
7. This development must increase the strength of our unions and the strength of our fight by solving our differences.

8. The strength of our unions must be used to support strong unions all over the world.
9. The Let's Get Back Together Campaign should focus on increasing the international ties of our local unions to learn and develop our arguments further.

Conference Further Believed:

1. The Let's Get Back Together campaign must raise awareness about how multiple oppressions affect the individual students.
2. A tool kit of actions and networking skills would benefit all LGBT groups.
3. The Let's Get Back Together campaign must develop stronger arguments for liberation and this would be best done through debates, discussion groups and seminars.
4. The Let's Get Back Together campaign must produce a piece of publicity that puts forward some of the issues surrounding multiple oppressions, informed by the debates and discussions on this issue.
5. Strengthening the international fight for Equality is the only way that we can achieve full equality.
6. We need to set up communication networks that extend past the UK.

Conference Resolved:

1. To run the Let's Get Back Together campaign next year.
2. To produce a tool kit of actions and networking skills, to be ready for freshers fairs.
3. To hold events that focus on winning and developing the argument for liberation and challenging oppression and produce a publicity pack based around the outcomes of these debates.
4. The NUS LGBT campaign should aim to be part of or set up a liberation coalition inside and outside of NUS.
5. To improve the communication networks of LGBT groups in local unions worldwide.
6. To work with Amnesty International to improve our international links.
7. To support the work of Amnesty International and allow unions and individuals to sign up to Amnesty through NUS to receive test updates and tasks.

SOCIETY & CITIZENSHIP ZONE

Heading: One World – The international fight for Equality

Conference Believed:

1. That the LGBT campaign is changing to reflect the legislative equality we have fought for and won
2. That other LGBT rights groups are starting to focus on winning hearts and minds as well as fighting for equality in other countries around the world.
3. That increasingly we are hearing about the struggles for LGBT rights outside the United Kingdom.
4. In over 70 countries homosexuality is criminal offence punishable by imprisonment, hard labour or death.
5. In these countries and many other the situation for LGBT people is dangerous and they risk an immediate threat to their lives.
6. LGBT people fleeing because of persecution or fear of persecution should have a safe place to go.
7. That for too long the LGBT campaign has been tokenistic in its support for internationalism and has seen a worrying drop in its Internationalism campaign work over the past few years.
8. On the 5th June President George W Bush is due to promote a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage.
9. The amendment would prohibit every State in the USA from recognizing same-sex marriages.
10. The US Senate is due to vote on this issue on the 6th June.
11. George W Bush's spoke person said "The president firmly believes that marriage is an enduring sacred institution between men and women and has supported measures to protect the sanctity of marriage".
12. The US constitution is a document that guarantees and outlines freedoms and doesn't restrict them.
13. That the Moscow Pride event was banned by the Mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov, which he called an "outrage to society".
14. Deputy Mayor Lyudmila Shetsova said: "In our country, homosexuality and lesbianism have always been considered sexual perversions, and were even prosecuted in the past. Currently, the stated actions are not prohibited by law, but their agitation, including gay festivals and a parade of sexual minorities, is in fact propaganda on immorality, which may be prohibited by the law."
15. That many defied the ban and took to the streets only to be attacked by neo-nazi thugs.
16. That LGBT participants and international observers were also arrested by the Moscow police.
17. A German member of parliament who attended the rally, Volker Beck, was punched in the face.
18. That Police closed the gates at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier so that LGBT marchers could not lay flowers.
19. That protest too place outside Russian embassies and consulates across Europe, including one organized by NUS Scotland in Edinburgh.

Conference Further Believed:

1. There are many international LGBT and human rights organisations that are campaigning for the decriminalisation of homosexuality and for a better life situation for LGBT people.
2. Some LGBT people fleeing due to persecution or fear of persecution on the basis of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity and expression choose to come to the UK.
3. That the International Lesbian and Gay Associations application to be reinstated as a consultant to the United Nations was blocked by countries including Iran and the United States.

4. That in Poland, a new EU member country, LGBT people were imprisoned simply for taking part in a pride march. And that the president of that country is hugely homophobic.
5. In this time of increased attacks on our freedoms and equalities that Internationalism within our Campaign must be at the heart of what we do
6. The proposed constitutional ban on gay marriage is wholly motivated by the deep rotted bigotry and homophobia of the religious right.
7. George W Bush is cynically attempting to shore up his poor poll ratings by launching this deeply homophobic attack to please his bigoted base of support.
8. A loving couple confirming their committed relationship and stating their commitment to stay together for the rest of their lives only strengthen the institution of marriage, the gender of the people involved is irrelevant.
9. Jerusalem WorldPride 2006 is trying to bring a new focus to an ancient city through a massive demonstration of LGBT dignity, pride, and boundary-crossing celebration.
10. Since 1997, the Jerusalem Open House for Pride and Tolerance (JOH) has been the local LGBT community and advocacy organization, working to serve the community. They take a stance that is irrespective of religion, nationality, gender or sexual identity, and to advance social change, promoting tolerance and pluralism.
11. The Israel-Palestine stand off has seen a violent conflict, decades-long occupation, walls being built up and all the other ingredients that make the conflict so horrifying makes the holding of WorldPride in Jerusalem, the city at the heart of the conflict, all the more worth it.

Conference Resolved:

1. To join in the international fight for LGBT rights by becoming members of the International Lesbian and Gay association and the international Gay and Lesbian Youth organisation.
2. To produce a briefing for all students about the state of LGBT rights in countries around the world.
3. To push our members of the European parliament for a commitment on lgbt rights from all member states.
4. To push to have sexual orientation and gender identity included as international human rights.
5. To fight to have those fleeing to our country from homophobic and transphobic countries given the right to asylum in the UK.
6. For NUS UK LGBT campaign to actively engage with international organisations either through membership or campaign support, supporting the international movement for the decriminalisation of homosexuality and the movement to see the right to a free sexual orientation and/or gender identity/expression recognised by the UN as a human right.
7. To condemn any attempt to institutionalise homophobia within the US constitution.
8. to continue to condemn and challenge homophobia and bigotry wher ever it appears.
9. To work with other LGBT originations internationally making the case of gay unions.
10. Call upon local, national and European representatives to promote the rights and interests of LGBT communities across Europe for the sake of equality, respect, health and peaceful living.
11. work with international LGBT Organisations to support pride festivals the world over.
12. call on Russia to be held to account for its actions in the European Court.
13. For the LGBT Officers and the National President to write to the organisers in support of the Event.
14. To encourage Student Union LGBT Groups to attend the event.

Heading: EquALLity

Conference Believed:

1. Equality is of enormous social benefit to individuals, communities and society as a whole.
2. The Equalities Review panel was set up to 'provide an understanding of the long term and underlying causes of disadvantage that need to be addressed by public policy; make practical recommendations on key policy priorities for: the government and public sector; employers and trade unions; civic society and the voluntary sector; and, inform both the modernisation of equality legislation, towards a Single Equality Act; and the development of the new Commission for Equality and Human Rights.'
3. The Equalities Review panel's composition is not representative and failed to include appropriate expertise.
4. The Equalities Review: Interim Report is a fundamentally flawed document which fails to appreciate the scope of discrimination and leans dangerously towards blaming the victims of discrimination for their plight, rather than addressing the reasons that discrimination occurs.

Conference Further Believed:

1. LGBT people are discriminated against by society on the basis of their sexual orientation and their gender identity.
2. Some LGBT people are subject to multiple oppressions.
3. All forms of discrimination and inequality damage the lives of individuals and communities and when they are discriminated against, people are unable to fulfil their full potential in society. Discrimination, in any form, is therefore a blight on society.
4. We must continue the fight against discrimination for all LGBT people, and we must challenge any suggestion that the blame for discrimination lies with the victim.
5. We must head towards a single Equalities Act which covers all forms of discrimination and inequality.
6. The interim report uses old outdated evidence that completely ignores the existence of Trans people.
7. This report contains completely inaccessible formulas that make a mockery of the fact that it should be an easily distributed, understandable and fully accessible document.
8. This report focuses the attention on how the victim can deal with their oppression instead of how structural oppression can be challenged so that there are no victims.

9. The report talks about “Trigger” episodes in peoples lives: these are choices that people take that expose them to discrimination.
10. This report tries to see how people can avoid trigger episodes and this is absurd people should not be changing their life choices to avoid discrimination. If you wanted to stop homophobia in universities you wouldn't tell LGBT people not to go!

Conference Resolved:

1. To not back the Equalities Review until it addresses structural oppression and stops blaming the victim.
2. To withdraw support for the CEHR if the Equalities Report does not provide a real solution to how the CEHR will work.
3. To actively campaign against the findings of the interim report.
4. To campaign for a representative Equalities Review Committee.
5. To continue our fight to combat discrimination and to attack inequality wherever we see it.
6. To appreciate the multiple inequalities and oppressions faced by members of the LGBT Community and to work with other liberation groups in the fight for equality for all.
7. To reject the findings of The Equalities Review: Interim Report, on the basis that they are based on a flawed premise, they fail to outline a course for tackling inequality and they represent an inadequate and narrow approach to the problem of inequality.

Heading: Our rights – Our fight; Discrimination in Goods

Conference Believed:

1. That the lobbying of organisations such as Stonewall, trade Unions and the labour campaign for lesbian and gay rights who fought hard and won an amendment to the Equality Bill giving way to protection for LGB people.
2. That the government's proposals did not cover harassment.
3. That an amendment in the Commons which would have protected Trans people from discrimination did not pass
4. The intentions of some homophobic B&B owners to flout the law.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That everyone should have the right go about their lives without fear of discrimination, including on the basis of sexuality and gender identity.
2. That faith schools should not be exempt from the regulations.
3. That harassment on the grounds of sexuality should be included in the regulations.
4. That we should continue to campaign for protection from discrimination for Trans people.

Conference Resolved:

1. To campaign against any exemptions for functions of religious organisations.
2. To campaign against exemptions for faith Schools
3. To campaign for the regulations to cover harassment
4. to fight to ensure protection from discrimination for trans people is implemented as part of the European communities bill in 2007.
5. To ensure that students are aware of their rights when the new regulations come in to force on October 2006.
6. To publicly shame goods and service providers who continue to break the law.

Heading: LGBT Religious Students Provision

Conference Believed:

1. Religious LGBT students often either compromise their faith or sexuality because of lack of resources and social isolation.
2. That religious groups such as Methodist and Quaker Christians, Liberal and Reform Judaism, all have positive policy to include LGBT people in their movements
3. Where the mainstream religious movement does not support LGBT rights, there do exist organisations such as Imaan, a Muslim LGBT group and a catholic LGBT group.
4. The establishment of the Union of Jewish Students Bisexual Gay Lesbian Jewish student group known as Bagels.

Conference Further Believed:

1. NUS LGBT campaign has a vital role to play in raising awareness of Religious LGBT students to religious student bodies
2. NUS should forge links with religious organisations in order to support and signpost students to helpful organisations, in order to combat social isolation.
3. That NUS together with religious LGBT students should be working with these religious organisations to from student branches.

Conference Resolved:

1. To renew support for all LGBT friendly religious organisations.
2. To campaign for student provision in all religious organisations.
3. To publicise this religious LGBT student provision on an ongoing basis, by sending information in NUS mailings and emails to all Unions and LGBT officers and committees.
4. To lead a campaign for all LGBT religious students; to encourage their religious student communities to make positive steps in providing LGBT religious students' fora.

WELFARE & STUDENTS RIGHTS ZONE

Heading: Welfare Provision on Campus

Conference Believes:

1. We need to ensure that services on campuses are targeted at the LGBT community as we often have specific need.
2. LGBT often face discrimination in the Work place and we should produce a guidance at work document for Students and their Unions.
3. Coming to terms with your sexuality is often a daunting prospect and effects an individual mental health – we need to work with the Mental Health Support sector in ensuring that provision and monitoring is adequate.
4. Coming out while in Halls is often fraught with challenges, and students no matter what their sexuality should be able to live free from discrimination, but especially in their homes.
5. Bullying is still rife in Schools Further Education and even Higher Education on the grounds of Sexuality
6. Access to sexual health provision on campus is important as students are often (internally) migrant communities
7. That LGBT young people are far more likely to be in the care system.
8. That this is as a result of homophobia from family members.
9. That care leavers are a 'forgotten group'.
10. That 1 per cent of care leavers go to university, compared to over 40 per cent of the population.
11. That there are students who self-define as trans within this campaign.
12. That there are only three NHS-run Gender Identity clinics in the UK.
13. That the demand and therefore waiting lists for these clinics is huge, with waiting lists stretching for several years.
14. That the only other alternative treatment, in the private sector, is beyond what most students can afford.
15. There are many students who self-define as disabled students and LGBT
16. There have been some moves towards improving the accessibility of NUS LGBT events in recent years.
17. Stereotypes exist within society and those individuals who do not conform to the predominant stereotype can be disadvantaged.
18. Within the LGBT Community there are two predominant gender-based stereotypes: 'the camp man' and 'the butch dyke'.
19. Whilst people who are classed as members of these groups can be disadvantaged in society as a whole, within the LGBT community the reverse can be true. Those who do not fit into these categories can be overlooked and be made to feel less valid as members of the LGBT Community than more stereotypically 'gay' members.
20. Within the LGBT Community there is an expectation that physical appearance dictates identity. We make assumptions about people's personality and politics based on arbitrary physical attributes such as hair length, style of dress, and mannerisms, to the detriment of individuals who do not fulfil our assumptions.
21. Body Fascism is more prevalent in the LGBT community than in the heterosexual community.

Conference Further Believes:

1. That there is only one national organisation working specifically with LGBT care leavers: The Albert Kennedy Trust. They also provide safe homes for LGBT care leavers and work with them towards independence. They are grossly underfunded.
2. That LGBT people are often bullied and harassed in the care system.
3. That the legacy of Section 28 still causes homophobia from staff members working in social services homes, many of whom are not aware that Section 28 no longer exists and feel they cannot discuss sexuality with young people in their care.
4. That care leavers are far more likely to become homeless, commit suicide or become addicted to heroin. These instances are likely to be more prevalent amongst LGBT care leavers.
5. It is estimated that about 50% of transsexual people commit suicide before the end of their treatment due to the length of time they have to wait for treatment.
6. That the mental health problems caused by this lack of treatment can also cause major problems with university, leading to many trans people dropping out of university.
7. That, despite the European Court of Human Rights ruling that refusing to fund treatment is illegal, there is still a post-code lottery in Britain with regard to getting funding for treatment.
8. That this is partly due to an idea in the NHS that being trans is merely a lifestyle choice, and not a serious illness.
9. That many GPs and other doctors have little or no knowledge of transexuality and the issues surrounding it which also slows access to treatment.
10. That in the last few years several NHS gender identity clinics have been shut down.
11. Awareness within LGBT societies and groups around how to involve disabled students is often poor
12. LGBT societies and groups are often inaccessible to many disabled students
13. Many LGBT societies and groups want to involve disabled students, but do not have the knowledge and materials to go about this
14. That without easily accessible materials on involving disabled students in LGBT groups and societies and how to make LGBT groups and societies disabled accessible many local Union officers and groups cannot include disabled students effectively
15. The issues faced by LGBT disabled students can often vary from those of primary relevance to the campaign as a whole
16. That as a campaign we should be working on and campaigning on the issues of LGBT disabled students, as a recognised caucus of the LGBT campaign
17. All conferences, meetings and other events run by the LGBT campaign should be fully accessible to all LGBT students, regardless of disability.

18. Those who make up the LGBT Community are extremely diverse in terms of physical appearance and identities and our diversity is something which makes us strong, so long as it is embraced by all of us.
19. If we disregard in any way, no matter how subtle, those who do not fulfil our expectations in terms of appearance corresponding to identity, we are dividing ourselves and fuelling homophobia, biphobia and transphobia. We need to stick together.
20. If physical representations of LGBT people on publications persistently do not reflect the diversity of the LGBT Community, there is a danger that those who do not conform to the predominant stereotype may feel marginalised and unable to fully operate personally and politically within the Community or will feel pressured into conforming.
21. To attack the body fascism inherent in the LGBT Community by creating workshops addressing questions of identity and how this can translate into physical appearance, and how we can be more inclusive and accepting of our diversity.
22. To investigate possible solutions to the problem of the physical representation of LGBT people in NUS publications and other publications.
23. To encourage visual exhibitions of representations of LGBT people in mixed media in Student Unions, which would both embrace diversity and challenge stereotypes. The content of these exhibitions would be created and displayed by LGBT students, for all other students.
24. To encourage LGBT groups and societies to use body positive images in their promotion materials and campaigns
25. to produce a briefing on body fascism in the LGBT community to include how to challenge it and to distribute to CMs
26. To encourage Students' Unions to actively include LGBT students and their issues in any campaigns they run in relation to mental health, eating disorders and body positive promotions.
27. To challenge body Fascism whenever it occurs.

Conference Resolves:

1. To work with campus Careers Advisors to make sure they understand the new legislation surrounding LGBT equality at work.
2. To work with Counselling Services and other mental health support advisors in Further and Higher Education, to set up referral systems and monitoring services of LGBT students taking up support.
3. To produce guidance for Accommodation and Welfare officers on Supporting students who are facing conflict in University maintained properties.
4. To work with DfES to produce estrangement funding guidance and to Lobby for a decent level of funding, and for this information to be given to all SUs
5. To work with the Anti-Bullying Alliance – Schools Out and other LGBT positive LGBT groups to produce campaigning materials on stopping bullying.
6. To work with Local Health Authorities and DoH to lobby for on campus sexual health provision, that specifically targets the LGBT Community.
7. To work with the welfare campaign on their campaigns on this issue this year and congratulate the national union on passing policy specifically on care leavers at annual conference.
8. To congratulate The Albert Kennedy Trust on their work on this issue
9. To include LGBT care leavers as a part of a priority campaign for 2006-2007
10. To raise awareness of the plight of LGBT care leavers and the discrimination they face.
11. To continue to publicise and celebrate the eradication of the hateful Section 28, whilst remembering that it is still falsely believed to be in place by many people, including professionals working with young people.
12. To fight for increased funding for trans treatment and the opening or reopening of more gender identity clinics, not further closures.
13. To make sure that all doctors are taught about transexuality during their training.
14. To lobby any local health authority that is withholding funding for treatment from any trans people.
15. To highlight the Mental Health issues that Trans students face and to work on this issue.
16. To include a disabled LGBT students section in a priority campaign on the issues relevant to and involvement of caucuses within the LGBT campaign.
17. To mandate the LGBT officers to work with the disabled students representatives on the LGBT committee to produce a guide to making local LGBT groups and societies fully disabled accessible and inclusive.
18. To mandate the LGBT officers to work with the disabled students representatives on the LGBT committee to produce a briefing on involving disabled LGBT students on a local level
19. To distribute both briefings to all Constituent Members
20. To review the current accessibility criteria for events, meetings and conferences, with a view to making all LGBT campaign events fully disabled accessible
21. To run non-alcoholic, disabled accessible socials at LGBT conferences and events, where there is an organised social part to the programme
22. To review policy and practice of the LGBT campaign, with a view to making the campaign fully disabled accessible
23. To run a campaign, to be part of a caucus-based priority campaign, focusing on the actual issues that disabled students within the LGBT campaign feel are of primary importance to them, taking policy passed on disabled LGBT students' issues at conferences and the views of the relevant caucus as a starting point.

Heading: A Full Time Officer for Full Time LGBT Campaign

Conference Believes:

1. Currently there are two part time officers for the LGBT Campaign. 1 (Women place) 1 (Open place).
2. The current status quo that at least one women officer leading the campaign making sure that the important issues that affect women students who are Lesbian, Bisexual or Trans aren't left out or misunderstood.

3. Groups like Disabled LGBT and Black LGBT students have to rely upon committee members to make sure their views are represented, by a self defined student of their caucus.
4. There are 6 places for Women on committee. There are also no barriers nor should there be for women to stand for any of the open places on the committee.
5. The LGBT campaign is autonomous from NUS allowing LGBT students and officers to change its' own policies and to run its' own campaigns.
6. The Black Students Campaign, the Women's Campaign and the Disabled Students Campaign all liberation campaigns like the LGBT campaign have one full time officer who runs their campaign while still able to support all caucuses groups within their campaign equally.
7. Going for a part time officer can be a turn off for many self-defined students because of the low pay and the knowledge that the officers need to get a second job to support their living cost if they will not receive any other incomes while in their year in office.

Conference Further Believes:

1. Both part time officers mean that either cannot put 100% of their time into the campaign, as they require a second income to support their living cost or would be studying either a full or part time course.
2. The officers can not afford to live in London, where the NUS are based.
3. As a result, they have to commute substantial distances to get to their offices to organise campaigns and to attend meetings.
4. Having a strong committee, that have the roles for all the caucuses groups in the campaign is a very good way to make sure that the views and issues are represented.
5. Pushing for strong caucuses' campaigns in the LGBT campaign, upon giving LGBT students from both FE/HE real changes and benefits in supporting them in their education.

Conference Resolves:

1. To replace the 1 (Women place) and 1 (Open place) part time officers with one full time (Open place) officer.
2. To mandate for the lead officer to work with the committee and make sure that the committee are fully trained so they can represent all the caucuses LGBT students in the campaign equally and to the best of their ability.
3. Any money that is save from having one full time officer to go back into the LGBT campaigns budget!

EDUCATION ZONE

Heading: Financial Support for LGBT Students

Conference Believed:

1. We strongly oppose the introduction of University fees of up to £3000 from September 2006 brought in by the Labour Government in England.
2. The return of grants for HE Students of up to £2700 is a step forward, although it does not go nearly far enough to ensure that students are adequately supported financially.
3. That the widening participation agenda is necessary, but under threat: we need to get more students from non-traditional backgrounds into higher education.
4. Students from the lowest two socio-economic groups have a 20% chance of going to university while those from the top two have an 80% chance.
5. Research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation shows that students from poorer backgrounds are not only less likely to get to university – but they graduate with the most debt and go into lower paid first jobs.
6. That at NUS Conference this year, delegates reaffirmed our opposition to all forms of tuition fees and voted to call for a higher basic grant, reform of the means testing system and the targeting of financial support to the students who need it most.
7. That deliberate attempts which have been made to confuse the present means testing system (in which many LGBT student DO fall through the funding gap, or chose between coming out and coming to further study) with NUS' new policy of targeted grants which calls for reform of the means testing system is massively flawed and one must be created that is equitable to all.
8. That deliberate attempts have been made to imply that universal grants had massive student support at Annual Conference; every single political faction (except Labour Students) opposed targeted grants – the amendment got through only because independent delegates at the conference.
9. That targeted grants within a reformed system is now official policy of NUS UK and has been in NUS Scotland and NUS Wales for some time.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That what destroys our Free Education policy and NUS' credibility is kidding ourselves that universal grants (which would cost more than the cost of the entire secondary education system!) are realistic or progressive.
2. That spending public money on rich kids is regressive and does nothing to further social justice or life chances. Money should be spent on those who needed it.
3. Not only would it be wreckless and irresponsible for the LGBT campaign to fight NUS policy, it would be selling out our own members, who would greatly benefit from a reformed means testing system that doesn't sell them short.
4. That the LGBT campaign should spend its time and money fighting for its members, not fighting NUS.
5. Taxation and benefits are most effective when they are means tested and those who need the most get the most.
6. It is an outrage that students from the richest backgrounds are 25 times more likely to go to one of the top universities than those from the poorest backgrounds.

7. Flat rate grants wouldn't work, as giving the same level of funding to the super rich as to those from the poorest backgrounds is clearly unfair and wasteful. Public money can be spent more wisely than on grants for the richest in society who do not need them.
8. NUS's current policy of grants for all would cost over £35 billion a year. This is more than the entire annual cost of secondary education.
9. Not every student needs a grant - pertinent examples include Jemima Khan, Prince William and Kevin Sinfield, the Captain of the Leeds Rhinos, all of whom could comfortably survive at University without grants from the public purse.
10. The current means testing system is massively flawed and one must be created that is equitable for all.
11. That the current means testing system leaves LGBT students falling through the funding gap, left with the choice between coming out and coming to university.
12. With a credible grants policy, we can affect change by reforming the current system and winning higher grants for those who need them.

Conference Resolved:

1. To ensure that LGBT students' needs form a central part of the demands for higher, targeted grants within a reformed system.
2. To campaign for Free Education: no to all forms of tuition fees, yes to funding by progressive taxation of individuals and corporations.
3. To campaign for grants and bursaries to be targeted to those who need them most.
4. To campaign for a fair means testing system with a higher basic grant.
5. To campaign for a local grant appeals system for students.
6. To work with the VP Education to ensure that the LGBT Equality is an integral part of the work of NUS and that the financial needs of LGBT students are part of NUS' education funding campaign.

Heading: Equality in Education

Conference Believed:

1. Education is central to a fair and equal society; all prejudice and discrimination must be identified and rooted out.
2. Some LGBT students have fallen through the funding gap in Further and Higher education, whether as a result of the flawed means testing system or because bursaries and student support locally fails to identify and support the needs of students who become estranged from their parents because of their sexuality.
3. Some LGBT students have faced discrimination or felt at a disadvantage during the admissions process.
4. Evidence suggests that like some other groups, LGBT students have found themselves at a disadvantage during assessment where anonymous marking is not in place.
5. The political, social and cultural history of our movement and our struggles has not been adequately addressed within the national curriculum. Unlike some other civil rights movements, ours is too often a forgotten history.
6. Homophobic bullying is rife throughout our education system; it causes permanent damage to the attainment, life changes and lives of the people who fall victim to homophobic and transphobic bullying and blights the schools, colleges and universities where it takes place.
7. That there has been significant Equality Legislation that will affect Students, their Unions and their Colleges.
8. That the LGBT Campaigns presence in the Further Education sector is still woefully lacking.
9. That City Academies do not deliver for any student but especially for those who are LGBT due to the ability of any organisation to purchase a controlling share.
10. That the notion of being able to buy yourself access to a generations worth of Education is woefully wrong.
11. For putting in about £2m, sponsors get a controlling say in the running of an academy - while the government puts in typically £23m capital and pays the running costs.

Conference Further Believed:

1. The financial needs of LGBT students resulting from estrangement must be identified and tackled by government and institutions alike.
2. LGBT students must feel confident that they will not be judged unfairly during the admissions process.
3. All institutions should put anonymous marking in place wherever possible to guarantee fairness for all.
4. Curricula should reflect the positive contributions of all communities; integrating LGBT history into the national curriculum would enrich our education and break down prejudice from an early age.
5. Homophobic bullying has no place in society; all educational providers have a duty to tackle bullying of LGBT students wherever and whenever it occurs.
6. That LGBT grass roots activists are not developed in the FE Sector, and we must make this a priority development area, as the number of LGBT Students in FE should far out number those in HE.
7. NASUWT (a union for teachers) says academies fail all six of the tests it has devised for private sector involvement in state education. They also oppose the creation of "trust schools" and any increase in private sector involvement in schools.
8. Academies undermine democratic accountability and may undermine staff pay and conditions
9. The NUT (another Union for Teachers) believe "the government's plan to have 200 academies in England by 2010 as a threat to the future of state education and the comprehensive ideal". The NUT resolved that academies are not an effective policy for education in socially disadvantaged areas.

Conference Resolved:

1. To call for a National Priority Campaign around 'Equality in Education' and for it to be convened by the Liberation Officers.
2. To provide briefings and training days for LGBT/Education/Presidents on how the Goods Services and Public Bodies Legislation will affect Students' Unions and Colleges.

3. To work with the VP Education to ensure that LGBT equality is an integral part of the work of NUS and that the financial needs of LGBT students are part of NUS' education funding campaigning.
4. To campaign for fairness in access and admissions and for anonymous marking everywhere.
5. To support LGBT History Month and welcome the government's commitment to LGBT history in the curriculum.
6. To support Stonewall's Education For All campaign and support CMs in establishing hate crime reporting centres across colleges and campuses.
7. To run an LGBT priority campaign on building strong and active Further Education campaign that is convened by the Officers and the FE Reps.
8. To lobby the Associations of Colleges (AOC) and other relevant bodies to look at the Student Experience of the LGBT community and formulate strategies to ensure parity between the LGBT and Heterosexual community.
9. To support the NASUWT and NUT stance on city Academies.
10. To oppose the introduction of any privatisation of state Education, but especially City Academies.
11. To send a letter to all Education Officers 4 weeks before the deadline for annual conference motions outlining the reasons why City Academies are bad with a template motion for annual conference.

Heading: Untitled

Conference Believed:

1. Homophobic bullying is endemic in schools and is continued throughout further and higher education.
2. Only around 6% of schools have a fully inclusive anti-bullying policy which includes homophobic bullying.
3. Rates of suicide and self harm are considerably higher among LGBT young people compared with young people that are not LGBT.
4. LGBT young people are far more likely than other young people to leave education at 16 rather than continuing their studies because of bullying.
5. As well as homophobia, exclusive heterosexism in educational institutions is also damaging and can increase the feelings of isolation for LGBT people.
6. Section 28 of the 1988 Local Government Act never applied in schools and has now been repealed. Teachers are legally free to discuss homophobia with students in the classroom.
7. State schools in England and Wales have a duty of care to ensure the safety and to protect the emotional wellbeing of every person in their care (Children's Act 1998)
8. Head teachers in England and Wales are required to develop policies and procedures to prevent all forms of harassment (Schools Standard and Framework Act 1989).
9. In Scotland schools must have an annual plan to encourage equal opportunities (standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000).
10. In the Aftermath of section 28 teachers and staff are still in a state of confusion over how to address issues involving sexuality.

Conference further believed:

1. Schools have a responsibility for the moral as well as the academic education of their pupils.
2. Homophobic attitudes at all levels of education leave a lasting effect on all young people. Attitudes developed when young can last a lifetime.
3. Homophobic attitudes can be communicated to young people by indirect means, such as not including discussion of LGBT people in lesson plans where it would be appropriate to do so, and this can be very damaging.
4. The damaging effect of bullying can endure long after it occurs, and this can have long-lasting implications for the mental health of LGBT people, which can damage their ability to access and succeed in education.
5. Educational Institutions have a responsibility to provide an educational environment free from intimidation for pupils and staff.
6. Teachers need to be provided with guidelines and recommended methods to work with issues around sexuality.
7. Teachers also need to be trained to integrate sexual diversity into the core curriculum subjects.
8. Until the reality understanding that LGBT sexuality is as natural and usual as heterosexuality is enabled to permeate widely throughout the education system, the task of ending centuries of prejudice will continue to be an uphill struggle.

Conference resolved:

1. To work with Schools Out and continue the work done with Birmingham University to maintain the momentum generated by the Stamp Out Homophobia petition.
2. To take advantage of the progress already made by the Stamp Out Homophobia campaign and its links with the Minister for Education in order to facilitate further meetings and discussion with members of parliament.
3. To work with the new Education Officer of Stonewall on the Education For All campaign.
4. To build a coalition with teaching Trade Unions to pressurise the government to include LGBT issues in the curriculum.
5. To work with this coalition to increase the number of schools implementing an anti bullying policy that includes homophobic bullying on a record and report basis, similar to that already implemented for racist bullying.
6. To work with Schools Out to promote LGBT History Month.
7. To produce a pack to distribute to LGBT student groups to encourage their participation in LGBT History Month, and to encourage them to work with local schools on this.

Heading: Education Funding

Conference Believed:

1. Under funding has created a crisis in HE, leading to course and campus closure, halls privatisation and universities looking to private companies, including arms manufacturers, for research funding.
2. From September this year, top-up fees of up to £3,000 will arrive in England. Wales will receive top-up fees for the first time in 2007.
3. Vice-chancellors are already lobbying to lift the cap in 2009. The effects of top-up fees are already being felt: applications are down to English universities, while in Scotland, where there are no top-up fees, applications have risen.
4. Variable fees threaten to marketise our education system and lead to students chooses courses based on their bank balances rather than their brains; institutions that have chosen to charge less than £3,000 this year have seen healthier applications than those who are charging the full amount.
5. That the three main political parties have let students down on HE Funding; Labour promised not to introduce top-up fees, but subsequently did; the Tories promised not to support top-up fees, but have now U-turned; the Liberal Democrats claim to oppose all forms of fees, but in Scotland the Liberal Democrat HE Minister is proposing to charge medical students top-up fees.

Conference further believed:

1. That NUS Conference resolved to make education funding a priority; supporting that campaign must also be a priority for the LGBT campaign.
2. Education should be a right for all students from nursery to university; this is a right we must all fight to defend and extend.
3. When we acted collectively we brought the government within three votes of defeat; we lost the vote but we didn't lose the argument.

Conference resolved:

1. To make supporting the NUS education priority campaign a priority.
2. To use our links and networks to build for the first term national demonstration in London, as well as other strands of the campaign throughout the year.
3. To mandate LGBT committee members to build for, and attend, the national demonstration in London.

EMERGENCY MOTIONS

Heading: Homophobia in the Media

Conference believed:

1. Homophobia in ALL forms is wrong.
2. Chris Moyles recently used the word gay to describe something that was bad or wrong.
3. Radio One Controller Andy Parfitt has imposed new rules delivering a fine of £25,000 for outbursts deemed homophobic.

Conference further believed:

1. Daily Mirror columnist Paul Routledge wrote an article saying that swearing is worse than homophobia and LGBT people should be "grown up enough not to mind a few jokes or even robust criticism? We straights face it all the time".
2. The BBC is correct to issue £25,000 fines for homophobia.

Conference resolved:

1. To write to Paul Routledge of the Daily Mirror condemning his comments and to inform him of the true effects of homophobia.
2. Write to Radio One Controller, Andy Parfitt, to thank him for his introduction of £25,000 fines for 'homophobic outbursts'.

**Policy passed at LGBT Summer
Campaign Conference 2007**

WELFARE AND STUDENT RIGHTS ZONE

Heading: Our Sexual Health

Conference believed:

1. Young people in the UK have the worst sexual health in Western Europe;
2. That recent figures predict that 1 in 25 LGBT people in the UK have HIV, 1 in 10 in London and 1 in 8 on the London Scene;
3. The UK Chlamydia Screening Programme finds one in ten of the 16-24 year olds they test have Chlamydia;
4. Sexually transmitted infections cause unnecessary suffering to thousands of students annually;
5. The government has sexual health campaigns and resources such as the sexwise website and RUthinking campaign.
6. STI transmission rates in the UK are amongst the highest globally.
7. People who get tested for STI's are acting responsibly and should not be victimised for doing so.
8. PEP (Post Exposure Prophylaxis) is available in some areas of the UK. It can limit the spread of HIV but is not an alternative to safe sex and is not a cure.
9. PEP should be recognised as a step forward in the fight against HIV/AIDS.
10. That Sexual Health Education in the UK is at an unacceptably low level in schools LGBT Sexual Health in particular is not discussed and heavily stigmatised.
11. Comprehensive sex education is not a compulsory part of the National Curriculum and many students have little or no understanding of how to protect themselves from HIV and other STIs.
12. Even in the LGBT Community sex education resources for women who have sex with women, Trans people and for bisexuals are rare.
13. That sex education is about empowering people to have a positive sexual identity as much as warning about Sexually Transmitted Infections.
14. That there is a misconception that Lesbian, Bisexual and Trans women who have sex with other women are not at risk from sexually transmitted infections (STI's)
15. That this myth is often perpetuated by non-inclusive sexual health campaigns, health services and LBT women themselves.
16. That within our schools, further education and higher education sex education for LBT women is virtually non-existent, and safe sex advice is difficult to find at best.

Conference further believed:

1. 2007 marks the 25th anniversary of Terrence Higgins Trust, the UK's largest HIV and sexual health charity.
2. THT offer a wide range of services to students and young people including testing, treatment and counselling services.
3. HIV is the UK's fastest growing serious health condition.
4. The government campaigns and resources on sexual health are heterosexist and exclude LGBT people.
5. The government is not doing enough to stem the transmission of STI's despite the high rates of transmission.
6. Trans people are routinely excluded from all sexual health information.
7. More basic information on STI testing should be made available to LGBT students.
8. PEP is available on a postcode lottery and is exposed to the homophobia and transphobia of the health service.
9. There is a dangerous myth that lesbians are not at risk of catching or transmitting STI's.
10. The HIV/AIDS epidemic must be recognised as an issue for LGBT people, but not just for LGBT people
11. The NUS LGBT campaign should focus on personal experience to motivate LGBT students to get tested and raise awareness of the dangers of unsafe sex.
12. The stigma around STI's can exacerbate and lead to mental health issues.
13. Much of the funding for Sexual Health that has been allocated to Primary Care Trusts by the Department of Health has been diverted to other projects.
14. That funding for sexual health provision for gay men in London is under threat.
15. That LGBT individuals are less likely to have a positive view of their sexuality than other members of society.
16. Individual LGBT Societies have a part to play in promoting positive sexual identity and educating students about sexual health.
17. That due to the myths surrounding LBT women's sexual practices, some doctors refuse or advise against treatment or testing for women who have sex with women.
18. That many LBT women do not get tested for STI's as they believe that their sexual practices are 'low risk'.
19. Low risk does not mean no risk. Women who have sex with women are at risk for many of the same STI's as exclusively heterosexual women.
20. That women who have sex with women should have the same right to health services as exclusively heterosexual women, and should get tested for STIs on a regular basis
21. Trans women have specific sexual health needs which are rarely met by generic health practitioners.

Conference resolved:

1. The NUS LGBT campaign should lobby the government and relevant organisations to take LGBT sexual health seriously and recognise and act on their heterocentric materials.
2. The NUS LGBT campaign should lobby medical associations to dispel the myth that lesbians cannot catch or transmit STI's and produce materials to support this.
3. PEP drugs should be more widely and easily available and NUS LGBT campaign should work with the THT to achieve this.

4. The NUS LGBT Campaign should challenge the belief that HIV/AIDS is a gay issue but should recognise that it does affect the LGBT community.
5. To focus on challenging the stigma surrounding getting tested for STI's.
6. To focus on challenging the stigma around people that contract STI's by creating a monitored web space through the NUS website to allow for anonymous peer accounts on contracting STI's and the testing process following the example of DeMontfort University.
7. To promote the idea of society trips to sexual health testing clinics and buddying schemes.
8. To work with the Welfare Campaign, THT and likeminded groups to improve LGBT students' understanding of HIV and sexual health issues, including FE and mature students.
9. To support Unions in developing relevant information for students, including online resources, and a postcode based sexual health service finder hosted on SU websites.
10. To campaign for PSHE, including Sex and Relationships Education to become a statutory part of the National Curriculum to ensure all young people have the knowledge and skills to make healthy choices.
11. To continue to support National Rag Week and help its activities campaign on sexual health issues while fundraising for HIV organisations.
12. The NUS LGBT campaign should continue to work with the NUS Welfare campaign to produce information packs with LGBT information for universities, colleges and all other educational establishments.
13. To help increase the availability of Trans sexual health information.
14. To lobby for LGBT sexual health issues to be included in mainstream sexual health provisions and campaigns.
15. To lobby the department of Health and local PCTs to spend their allocated budgets for sexual health appropriately and fully in order to meet targets and improve the services they provide to patients.
16. To encourage LGBT Societies to organise events promoting positive sexual health and support them in these events.
17. To lobby the government for PSHE, including Sex and Relationships Education to become a statutory part of the National Curriculum to ensure all young people have the knowledge and skills to make healthy choices.
18. To challenge the misconception that LBT women are not at risk from STI's
19. To encourage local LGBT groups to work with their union welfare services to produce more inclusive sexual health information.
20. For the LGBT officer (women's place) and the women's place committee members to initiate a campaign calling for better NHS sexual health provisions for LBT women, which specifically includes sexual health provision for transsexual people.
21. To encourage our LBT women members to get tested for STI's on a regular basis.
22. To work with the NUS women's campaign on sexual health campaigns which include all women.

Heading: Hate Crime

Conference believed:

1. That hate crime attacks against LGBT people are on the increase and is currently under reported.
2. In some parts of the country, rates of LGBT hate crime have risen by over 200% in just two years.
3. Recent surveys show that a staggering 68% of people have been subjected to verbal abuse or threats because they are, or have been perceived to be, lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans.
4. A further 23% of people have been assaulted or violently attacked in their lives purely because of their sexuality.
5. Shockingly, only 17% of victims of LGBT hate crime report these incidents to the police.
6. That verbal abuse is a hate crime, and should be treated as such.
7. That there is Incitement to Religious hatred and Incitement to Race hate laws which can add two years to an offenders sentence if they are convicted of religious/race hate motivated crime.
8. That there is no equivalent law for homophobic, biphobic or transphobic hate crime.
9. That reforms to Hate Crime legislation has made reporting easier and now includes homophobic and transphobic motivated attacks;
10. Hate Crime reporting can now be done anonymously and by a third party who has witnessed an incident;
11. That many students' unions have capitalised on this reform and double up their advice centres as hate crime reporting centres;
12. That increased reporting of hate crimes is the only way to win more police resources to combat attacks and take the crimes seriously;
13. That there local Police forums the LGBT community to raise their issues with the authorities.

Conference further believed:

1. That the LGBT Campaign should be advocates for Hate Crime Reporting Centres and should encourage all victims of hate crimes to report them to the police;
2. That LGBT groups should be active members of local police forums on LGBT issues.
3. That LGBT hate crime should be treated like any other hate crime.
4. That there should be Incitement to Hatred laws which include hatred of people because of their sexuality, gender identity or gender expression.
5. That the LGBT campaign should prioritise supporting students who have been victims of hate crime and providing information on how to report hate crime and why it is important to do so.
6. That recent legislation has seen legal protection for LGBT people from hate crimes in England and Wales.
7. That the Lothian and Borders police force has recently rolled out a remote hate-crime reporting service in some students' unions in Scotland. These hate crime reporting centres allow students to report incidents, on-campus and in confidence to friendly well-trained staff.

Conference resolved:

1. To produce a briefing pack on how to tackle hate crime and how to set up hate crime reporting centres

2. To produce campaign materials to be distributed to CMs encouraging students to report hate crime and campaigning for legislation on incitement to homophobic, biphobic and transphobic hatred .
3. To run a petition campaign, like the successful Donation not Discrimination Campaign, demanding that the government make legislation on incitement to homophobic, biphobic and transphobic hatred, treating them as equally serious as other forms of hatred.
4. To continue to campaign against LGBT hate crime, and to work with the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign to ensure the Scottish Executive legislates to ensure homophobic hate crime is recognised as a criminal offence.
5. To work to encourage more students subjected to hate crimes to report these crimes to the police and have those responsible brought to justice.
6. To work with the police to develop better and more transparent ways to report hate crimes and to ensure that all reported incidents are treated seriously.
7. To work student unions and police forces to set up more hate crime reporting centres at students' unions across the UK.

Heading: Gender-Neutral Toilets and Trans Rights

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

1. That trans people should have the right to use facilities that they feel most comfortable with, free of discrimination and harassment.
2. Many trans students would benefit from the availability of gender-neutral toilets, which may exist alongside the gender-specific amenities currently available.
3. That educational institutions are environments in which trans students should be able to feel as comfortable in themselves as anyone else.
4. That motions in favour of gender-neutral toilets in universities such as the University of Bradford provide a positive precedent.

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Mental health

Conference believed:

1. LGBT people have specific mental health needs.
2. Gay men have been shown to experience higher rates of major depressive disorders than heterosexual men. Lesbians have also been shown to be four times as likely as heterosexual women to report mental distress.
3. It was only in 1993 that the UK Government removed homosexuality from its central computer list of psychiatric disorders, and transsexual people are still classified as suffering from a mental disorder. Homosexuality continues to be referred to as a psychiatric disorder in some psychiatric texts.
4. Being LGBT is not in itself a mental health problem, but coping with the effects of discrimination can be highly detrimental to lesbian, gay and bisexual mental health. Internalised homophobia, with associated feelings of low self-esteem and self-hatred, can specifically lead to emotional distress.
5. In December 2006, the LGBT campaign worked with the Disabled Students campaign to successfully remove a clause from the recent proposed amendments to the Mental Health Bill which would have removed protection for LGB people, and would have effectively enabled homophobic clinicians to section somebody simply because of their sexuality.
6. There are very few LGBT specific mental health services.
7. There is a particular stigma attached to being LGBT in the (politically) Black community.
8. Coming out is often not considered an option for many Black LGBT students, because of the cultural pressures upon them.
9. Mental health issues are also stigmatised in Black communities, in the context of a culture of "machismo" and "doing ones duty".
10. That many mental health charities and organisations have recently begun to implement LGBT mental health groups and support services;

11. That the NUS Disabled Students' Campaign has been actively involved in welcoming and supporting the formation of the groups;
12. That NUS has been championed as a beacon of good practice in this area given its progressive work on cross liberation issues in recent years.

Conference further believed:

1. The 2006 Disability Equality Duty demands that service providers, including Universities and Colleges, take mental health issues seriously.
2. The 2003 Mind/University College London report on the mental health of lesbian, gay men and bisexual people found that up to 36% of gay men, 26% of bisexual men, 42% of lesbians and 61% of bisexual women recounted negative or mixed reactions from mental health professionals when being open about their sexuality.
3. Mental health staff, including consultants, are given no specific training in issues of sexuality and LGBT people are excluded from service planning and delivery.
4. Although many universities and colleges provide student support and counselling services, these usually have long waiting lists, meaning that students can't access the help that they need when they need it.
5. Black LGBT people have further unique needs with regards to mental health service provision.
6. Groups like the Naz Project already provide useful services in this regard and can help spread best practice.
7. That specific provision for LGBT people can help those with mental ill health feel more comfortable accessing services;
8. That progressive colleges and universities are slowly starting to recognise homophobia in their mental health services and have begun to address this;

Conference resolved:

1. To work with the Disabled Students campaign, the Black Students campaign and the Welfare and Student Rights campaign on this issue.
2. To lobby the government to implement mandatory training on LGBT issues for all mental health staff.
3. To lobby University Vice Chancellors and College Principals to implement inclusive mental health policies and to invest in mental health provision on campus.
4. To produce a co-branded online resource with other stakeholders aimed at LGBT students and young people which address mental health issues.
5. To support the Disabled Students' campaign in helping these groups form and offer advice and council to organisations that are attempting to support LGBT people access mental health support
6. To include mental health in a priority campaign for 2007-2008 to ensure that the rights of LGBT people are not forgotten in the reform of any legislation.

Heading: Opposing racism and fascism at home and abroad

Conference believed:

1. That the fascist BNP are continuing to make gains across the country
2. That the BNP will almost certainly be standing more candidates than ever before in this year's Local Government, Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly elections
3. That in areas where the BNP stand candidates, people will receive campaign literature promoting the lies, bigotry and hatred of the BNP
4. That we know where the BNP are allowed to pedal their hate racist and homophobic attacks increase.
5. That fascism has a massive effect on LGBT people.
6. That fascist parties seek the annihilation of whole sections of society including the LGBT community.
7. That under the Nazis tens of thousands of LGBT people were killed during the holocaust and that systematic destruction of society is an aim of modern-day fascist parties.
8. NUS is proud of its No Platform Policy.
9. It is important for NUS LGBT campaign to re-affirm support for the NUS No Platform Policy.
10. It is time to enshrine this policy into NUS LGBT campaigns standing orders to ensure the policy is upheld consistently at all of our events

Conference further believed:

1. That NUS has a strong and proud history of fighting all forms of bigotry and hatred.
2. On 1st January 2007, the accession of Bulgaria and Romania into the European Union saw the arrival of one Bulgarian and five Romanian MEPs into the European Parliament – giving the far right enough MEPs to form an official group in the European Parliament.
3. On 9th January 2007 a common political charter was signed to create the Identity, Tradition, Sovereignty (ITS) group in the European Parliament, entitling racist and fascists MEPs to up to €1 million (£660,000) of central funding as well as wider power and influence within European Parliament.
4. Its leader is the French MEP Bruno Gollnisch, number two in Jean-Marie Le Pen's Front National. Gollnisch, a professor of law and Japanese at Lyon University, is currently awaiting trial on charges of denying the Holocaust. The group includes six other French MEPs including Le Pen himself and his daughter Marine Le Pen.
5. The Bulgarian MEP, Dimitar Stoyanov, belongs to the Ataka party which campaigns for a "mono-ethnic" Bulgaria, viciously assailing the country's Roma and Turkish population. Stoyanov recently distinguished himself by sending an email to every MEP attacking Livia Jaroka, a Hungarian MEP of Roma origin and the winner of MEP of the year. Stoyanov's email stated that his own country had the "prettiest Gypsies" and informed anyone who was interested that he knew where you could buy 12-year-old Gypsy brides for "up to €5,000" (£3,300).
6. That bigotry has no place in the European Parliament or anywhere else.

7. That the fascist British National Party (BNP) heralded the formation of ITS and is hoping to gain representation during the next round of European elections.

Conference resolved:

1. To fight the BNP wherever they become active in the UK.
2. To work with other organisations, including Unite Against Fascism, to fight racism and fascism.
3. To educate LGBT students on the massive impact that the BNP would have on the lives of LGBT people in Britain.
4. To reaffirm our support for the NUS' No Platform Policy for racists and fascists
5. To support efforts by NUS UK to coordinate with ESIB – the National Unions of Students in Europe - a Europe-wide student day of action against the ITS
6. To work with organizations like Unite Against Fascism, Searchlight and other progressive anti-racist/anti-fascist movements.
7. To mandate the steering committee to include the following policy in the campaigns standing orders:

Equality of Opportunity

- a. The aims of the NUS LGBT campaign shall be pursued without regard to race, sex, sexual orientation, sexual identity, disability, ethnic origin, religion, age or creed, independent of any party political organisation or religious body; but positive discrimination in favour of any disadvantaged section of society shall be permissible.
- b. **No Platform Policy**
In pursuance of the aims of the campaign, any individuals or members of organisation or groups known to hold racist or fascist views will not be allowed to stand for election to any NUS LGBT campaign position, or attend, speak or otherwise participate in NUS LGBT conferences, meetings or any other NUS LGBT events, and LGBT committee members will not share a public platform with an individual or member of a organisation or group known to hold racist or fascist views.
 - i) From time to time by ordinary resolution of conference policy a person or organisation or group can be subject to the "No Platform" policy of NUS . In this context no individual or member of any organisation or group identified by the steering committee as being subject to "No Platform" shall be able to stand for election to any NUS office, or attend, speak at or otherwise participate in the Conference. A list of the individuals and organisations or groups subject to "No Platform" shall be kept on record by the National Secretary.
 - ii) Any Constituent Member or member of the Conference may complain to the Steering Committee about the entitlement of a person to be present at the Conference on the basis that they are currently subject to "No Platform". Such a complaint may be made at any time before or during the Conference. In this event the Steering Committee shall be empowered at its absolute discretion to investigate the complaint and then withhold or withdraw credentials to attend the Conference from any person who, in its view, is currently subject to "No Platform"
 - iii) The Steering committee shall develop regulations for the operation of these procedures to be approved as part of its report to Conference
 - iv) Any student identified in this section as not being eligible to stand for election at the conference shall be removed from the relevant and any subsequent stages of the election process by the elections committee.

Heading: Body Fascism

Conference believed:

1. That body fascism is prevalent in the LGBT community and rife on the LGBT scene.
2. Body fascism is severe intolerance in self and others of any weight or shape that doesn't resemble idealised bodies portrayed in media images.
3. Body fascism involves severe criticism of other people's size and shape, often resulting in the rejection or bullying of those who don't conform to a specific body type.

Conference further believed:

1. That body fascism can cause people to diet frequently, exercise excessively, take diet pills, skip meals, or use smoking and drugs as appetite suppressants. Some may even use vomiting, laxatives or diuretics.
2. That the media plays an active role in societies obsession with the 'body beautiful' using size zero models and very rarely reflective of society.
3. Body fascism can have a profound effect on LGBT and disabled people often marginalising them on the scene.
4. That in severe occasions students are driven to self harm because of the effects of body fascism.

Conference resolved:

1. To work with the media to encourage them to use images more reflective of the LGBT community.
2. To publish information for students suffering from the effects of body fascism.
3. To work with the other Liberation Campaigns on this issue.

Heading: For a wide-reaching campaign

Conference believed:

1. That a high percentage of undergraduate students come from high-income families and have parents who have degrees.
2. That while this is less true in FE institutions; many young people from the poorest backgrounds still have to drop out at 16 for a variety of reasons.
3. That FE students are hugely underrepresented in our campaign and many FE institutions do not have an established LGBT group or any support for LGBT students.

4. That university campuses are, in general, relatively inclusive and non-hostile places to be out as L, G, B or T.
5. That environment such as schools, housing estates, workplaces, city streets and rural villages are where a great deal of homophobia and transphobia take place.
6. That some neighbourhoods, such as Brighton, Stoke Newington in London and Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire are known for being LGBT friendly. These are expensive areas, which means LGBT people on high incomes are able to buy their way into safety and community while others remain in hostile environments.
7. That there are many useful LGBT services and resources provided by non-student organisations such as Mesmac.
8. That there should be more such services, they should reach more people and should receive more government funding.

Conference further believed:

1. That a priority for the NUS LGBT campaign should be fighting for safety and inclusion for all LGBT people.
2. That LGBT young people are particularly vulnerable and that those who drop out of education are less likely to be in environments, which are safe and accepting.
3. That schools are rife with homophobia and transphobia and school students often have no access to LGBT support services.
4. That students in FE institutions need more support in setting up LGBT groups and support networks.
5. That this support can be provided by established LGBT groups in HE and FE institutions and by the LGBT campaign, and should also be provided by government funded support services.
6. That there should be better government funded support services for LGBT people who are not in education.
7. That student LGBT groups would benefit from making use of local LGBT support services, particularly regarding sexual health and counselling.

Conference resolved:

1. To lobby government to prioritise well-funded, well-run support services for LGBT people, particularly young people in low-income and rural neighbourhoods.
2. To actively engage with students in educational institutions which do not have any established LGBT group or support services.
3. To encourage students at CMs with well-established LGBT groups to actively support students in nearby institutions in setting up LGBT groups.
4. To work to strengthen links with LGBT sections of trade unions.
5. To publicise good support services such as Mesmac, the Lesbian and Gay Switchboard and local LGBT support groups to students and encourage CM LGBT groups to do the same.

EDUCATION ZONE

Heading: Homophobic Bullying

Conference believed:

1. The problem of bullying in FE and HE has received very little attention, with the majority of work on bullying being done in schools and in the workplace.
2. A survey of the extent and effects of bullying in FE and HE by the NUS Welfare and Student Rights campaign found that 63% of all respondents said that they were currently being bullied, or had been bullied in the past while in FE or HE. 6% of respondents to this survey said that they had specifically suffered homophobic or transphobic bullying.
3. Very few students who answered the survey knew how to access their university or college's complaints procedures.
4. Complaints procedures for incidents of bullying are often inaccessible and may take weeks or even months to go through, during which time student experiencing bullying are given little protection.
5. Homophobic and transphobic bullying can ruin lives, often having a severe impact on the mental health of those who experience it.
6. It is every student's right to study in safety, and it is everyone's responsibility to make this a reality.
7. That in NUS's submission to the Select committee on Education and skills in December 2006 that the biggest reason for people being bullied in HE and FE was 'homophobic bullying'.
8. That disabled LGBT students often face dual discrimination and bullying.
9. That Bullying has a damaging affect on students in HE and FE, and that according to an NUS survey 80% had reduced self-esteem, 68% had disrupted sleep patterns, and 60% said that it affected their academic performance.
10. That 74% of respondents to an NUS survey did not know if their college or university had a policy on bullying
11. That a joined up approach to deal with bullying in the whole education system is needed.
12. That NUS and the NUS LGBT campaign have made some significant steps on the anti-bullying campaign this year.
13. Although students must of course be our priority, let us not forget other victims of homophobic bullying in the classroom.
14. The Teacher Support Network and the Times Educational Supplement recently ran a survey on LGBT harassment on teachers
15. Although in the majority of cases the perpetrators were pupils, often it was colleagues and parents

Conference further believed:

1. This year the LGBT campaign has made tackling homophobic and transphobic bullying in FE and HE a priority, and has worked closely with the Welfare and Student Rights campaign to produce the Bullying Sucks campaign.
2. The LGBT campaign has produced an online resource aimed at those experiencing homophobic and transphobic bullying, materials aimed at the student population, and lobbying tools to effect change in universities and colleges.
3. Universities and colleges should implement accessible and inclusive anti-bullying policies, which specifically deal with homophobic, and transphobic bullying.

4. The survey found that around 60% of teachers had faced this form of bullying
5. If Government is taking the issue of homophobic bullying amongst pupils seriously, it must also commit resources to combating homophobic/biphobic/transphobic harassment and discrimination directed towards staff.
6. The staffroom as much as the playground must be free from prejudice and discrimination.
7. That only by supporting teachers can we finally start challenging pupils across the board.

Conference resolved:

1. To work with the Welfare and Disabled Students campaign to produce a briefing and campaign to help local LGBT groups, and student officers campaign for better protection against Bullying in HE and FE for LGBT students including specific materials on Disabled LGBT students.
2. To write to and lobby the DFES to write to all HE, and FE institutions to explain the importance of Anti Bullying policies, and there importance in the liberation of LGBT students.
3. To mobilise students to create change at their universities, colleges and constituent members.
4. To demand that a government review is undertaken regarding further education and higher education institutions' approach to bullying.
5. To ensure that NUS LGBT campaign joins the call for more resources spent on supporting teachers
6. Urge Government to ensure that any measures to tackle homophobic bullying in schools also combats the harassment experienced by teachers.

Heading: Education Funding

Conference believed:

1. That the introduction of top-up fees has put many pressures on students, including reducing the amount of time spent on extracurricular activities.
2. These despicable actions of the Labour Government have therefore meant universities have increasingly become 'degree factories'.
3. That this means students have less time and inclination to get involved with student LGBT groups on campus, as ordinary members or student leaders.
4. Vibrant LGBT groups encourage students entering higher education to get involved and become comfortable with their sexuality in a safe and respecting environment.
5. The time-poor nature of many students, particularly in geographically extensive metropolitan areas like London, means they do not have the opportunity to participate.
6. We are the future.
7. That this year saw the re-introduction of the grant in Higher Education for the first time since they were abolished in 1998.
8. That these grant levels, currently capped at £2,700 are too small to cover the actual cost of living for students and do not reach the students who need them.
9. That the introduction of top-up fees has introduced a market in education, but the market has been most pronounced in bursaries, with a confusing array of institutional bursaries now on offer.
10. Last year the LGBT Campaign Summer Conference and NUS Annual Conference joined with NUS Scotland and NUS Wales in supporting the principle that financial support should be targeted to those who need it.
11. That the LGBT officers have commissioned research to look into issues around estrangement.

Conference further believed:

1. Education is a right, not a privilege: higher education should be free for all who wish to access it.
2. Higher education is not just an opportunity to gain an academic qualification; it is an opportunity to grow as a person through involvement in activities that will not be so easily available in the working world.
3. Students taking leadership roles in such groups provide them with the opportunity to learn skills that will benefit them in the wider world beyond university.
4. We have a responsibility to encourage students to take such roles and generate the next generation of world leaders who are proud about their sexuality.
5. Many students involved in LGBT groups at any level do not disclose their involvement to their academic liaisons (tutors, etc) for fear of negative responses, despite these people often being the ones writing university references.
6. Students taking part in such activity should not be discriminated against: they should be encouraged and rewarded.
7. Enormous inequalities exist in the British education system, with aspiration and attainment detrimentally affected by lack of money and fear of debt.
8. There is an absolute need to LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD in student support in order to widen access and further social justice:
 - i) Students from the lowest socio-economic groups have a 20% chance of going to university, while those from the top two have an 80% chance,
 - ii) Research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (experts in tackling poverty) shows that students from poorer backgrounds graduate with the most debt and go into lower paid jobs
9. Universal grants for all are neither realistic nor desirable; they would do nothing to level the playing field and giving the same level of state funding to the rich as to the poor is clearly unfair and wasteful and runs contrary.
10. Universal grants for all would cost over £35 BILLION POUNDS PER YEAR – THIS IS MORE THAN THE COST OF THE ENTIRE SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM!
11. We cannot support the existing means-testing system, as too many students fall through the funding gap; instead we must campaign for change. of living and should benefit more students. different bursaries; a national bursary scheme would be more equitable.
12. That the maximum grant level should be increased to cover the actual cost of living and should benefit more students.

13. That LGBT students often face the choice between coming out and coming to university and issues around estrangement are not adequately considered by the current means testing system.

Conference resolved:

1. To continue to oppose top-up fees and work with other areas of NUS and supportive parties to oppose the lifting of the cap on fees, and ultimately abolishing paid-for higher education.
2. To aid the work of constituent members/student unions in educating students about the negative effects of top-up fees with particular reference to involvement in activities, and LGBT groups.
3. To provide resources to help student LGBT group leaders engage their students in the anti-fees movement, driving home the relevance of this long-term fight.
4. To provide an online link or resource, detailing out and proud LGBT leaders in the UK and across the world, especially if they have previously been involved in student activism, as an example to our community.
5. To provide resources to student LGBT groups to oppose any homophobia in their institutions that may reduce their ability to have their contribution to university life and their own personal development, by highlighting the availability of complaints procedures etc that could be brought against academics that discriminate if a student wants certain activity to be taken into account.
6. To adopt a position in all our campaigns, literature and anywhere appropriate of fighting for whole reform of the mean-testing system for grants, highlighting why this is of particular relevance to LGBT students in the context of estrangement.
7. To support, in principle, the targeting of grants and bursaries, while campaigning for means testing reform.
8. To campaign for an effective and robust mechanism for appeals locally to grant and bursary allocations.
9. To campaign for grants that cover living costs.
10. To work with the VP Education on estrangement research and work around reforming the means testing system to ensure that the needs of LGBT students are at the heart of any reforms to the student support system.

Heading: Anonymous Marking

Conference believed:

1. That Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Trans Students often fear expressing their sexuality in an Educational Setting due to the fear of prejudice, that they might suffer, leaving them feeling isolated and unable to bring up many issues with their teachers & academics that maybe affecting their work, for fear of outing themselves, and being subject to abuse.
2. That the chance to achieve, in any walk of life, should be based upon ability.
3. That no student should be held back academically because they are an LGBT student.

Conference further believed:

1. That sometimes academics can intentionally or unintentionally discriminate when they are marking work, based on irrelevant distinctions, and not based on the academic content.
2. That the best way to protect individual students is to eradicate discrimination from society.
3. That in the mean time having the safeguards of anonymous marking in place will greatly reduce discrimination and the fear of discrimination.

Conference resolved:

1. To campaign to get Anonymous marking in place in all institutions in the UK, while we challenge and educate those in both Society and our Institutions with discriminatory attitudes.
2. To produce a briefing for local LGBT groups to resource them to campaign for anonymous marking in their institutions.

STRONG AND ACTIVE UNIONS ZONE

Heading: Governance Reform in NUS and LGBT

Conference believed:

1. There have been many changes to NUS' democratic structures in recent years
2. Some have been useful; some have been pointless; all have been piecemeal
3. The NUS LGBT campaign has made some brave decisions but must go further
4. Several mandates for NUS' Governance to be reviewed and reformed dramatically have been effectively ignored
5. That NUS' structures including those of Liberation campaigns are too rigid and outmoded.
6. These structures often prevent students from getting involved
7. Everyone within or connected to the organisation has a responsibility to secure it's long term future and set out plans for a more effective union
8. That any governance review must have some key principles including autonomy and liberation
9. That currently the LGBT campaign spends more money on servicing the LGBT committee than it does on campaigning.
10. LGBT summer and winter conference costs upward of £52,000.
11. That many LGBT groups struggle to find the funds to send two delegations of four to both LGBT conferences.
12. Ageism on the LGBT scene and in the community is rife;
13. That sexual health materials are mainly focused at younger members of the community – not appropriate for older members, those who have come out later in life or those in relationship;
14. There is a very successful campaign building for a Mature Students Officer on the NUS NEC;
15. NUS Scotland has a Mature Students Officer on the SEC;
16. The LGBT Campaign is looking to do a review of committee and the way it works.

17. That freshers is one of the most important times for a university or college LGBT group. Many groups rely on the new members recruited at freshers fayres to build strong and active LGBT groups for the coming year.
18. That active and visible LGBT groups on campus are the best way to encourage active participation.
19. That for many students coming to college or university is the first opportunity to 'come out' and having visible LGBT groups on campus can help that process, providing peer support.

Conference further believed:

1. That whilst the LGBT campaign must make it's own decisions about the future of the campaign it must also recognise the urgency of the need for reform.
2. That in any review of the Governance of NUS, nothing detailed or structural must be ruled in or ruled out at the outset, but that a set of guiding principles must be established now to inform the work
3. NUS' governance process is about to commence
4. It's vital that the LGBT campaign plays a full and frank role in the consultation
5. The Officers must both ensure representation of the campaign at the discussion and communication of the proposals from the discussions at all times
6. That ageism in all its forms should be challenged, and the LGBT campaign should take a role in combating it on the LGBT Scene and within the community;
7. Sexual health campaigns should deliver for the diversity students, including a maturer audience;
8. Legislation on age discrimination should be welcomed and its extensions to cover goods and services should be supported;
9. That a role for Mature Students to organise within the campaign should be considered in the forthcoming review.
10. That traditionally LGBT conference was held in Late June, just two months away from FE freshers.
11. That the timing of this event only provided the officers and committee a short time to get to grips with the year ahead, often not in time for an effective freshers campaign.
12. That the LGBT campaign is only as active as our members.

Conference resolved:

1. For the LGBT campaign to play a full and active role in NUS' governance review
2. For the Officers to feed all proposals back and bring them back for debate at the next conference
3. To replace winter LGBT conference with regional LGBT activist academy events, tailored to provide training and networking for LGBT students maximising participation locally without the barrier of cost.
4. To streamline the LGBT Committee by replacing the open and women's place caucus representatives with one place per caucus and increasing the open place and women's place representatives to three places each.
5. For all members of LGBT Committee to challenge ageism in all its form whether at conference, on the scene and in the community;
6. To ensure that any sexual health campaign materials include material relevant to mature students;
7. For the LGBT Officer to work with Trade Union Partners, the Mature Students Campaign and others to produce a briefing on Age Discrimination within LGBT community;
8. To support the extension of Age Discrimination legislation to cover goods and services;
9. Ensure that Mature Students are considered when running LGBT campaigns and at LGBT conferences and consider their representation on committee or through caucuses
10. To utilise the time after conference to have the first term priority campaign ready for freshers fayres.
11. To work with Student Unions and others to produce a freshers resources to make freshers successful and productive for FE & HE LGBT Groups.
12. For the LGBT committee to attend as many freshers fayres as possible to promote strong and active LGBT groups and NUS.

Heading: Queer Liberation

Conference believed:

1. That a growing number of people identify with marginalised sexual orientations or gender identities outside of or in addition to the traditional concepts of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans.
2. That these sexual orientations and gender identities are currently unrepresented by any campaign within the National Union.
3. That the most obvious place for these identities to be represented is within the LGBT Campaign due to the fact that we all face many similar and interlinked oppressions which stem from the heteropatriarchal system in our society.
4. An ever increasing number of student bodies, both CM's and otherwise, are making changes so that individuals who do not identify with the closed concepts of LGBT are welcome.
5. That with the exception of the women's caucus, for over the last two years, Queer caucus has been the largest caucus at LGBT Conference.
6. The NUS LGBT campaign, like all NUS Liberation campaigns, places a high value on its autonomy.
7. There is no accepted definition of Queer.

Conference further believed:

1. There are a number of minority groups that face similar misunderstanding, discrimination and prejudice to the LGBT community.
2. That the term Queer carries a stigma, and as such anyone defining as Queer faces misunderstanding, discrimination and prejudice from both within the LGBT community and from the general public.

3. That all people who experience prejudice based on their sexual orientation or gender identity should be represented on, in and by the LGBT Campaign where appropriate whether they fit into the narrowly defined LGBT umbrella or into the wider LGBTQ Community.
4. That by including those who define as Queer, significantly more delegates could be accurately represented.
5. Those who are oppressed or discriminated against should be the ones to define that oppression or discrimination, and also the ones to decide how that oppression or discrimination should be tackled.
6. Included under the queer umbrella are asexual people, autosexual people, and gender normative heterosexuals whose sexual/pleasure preferences place them outside the mainstream (e.g. BDSM practitioners, or polyamorous people). None of these people are oppressed or discriminated against in the same way that LGBT people are.
7. Whilst we must be inclusive of all the students we represent, it is essential that we protect our autonomy.

Conference resolved:

1. To ensure that people who identify as Queer are not excluded or marginalised at conference.
2. To create a permanent "Queer Caucus" by amending Standing Order 3.5
3. The Agenda. Insert the phrase "Queer Students Caucus" after "Trans Students Caucus" in the sections for both Winter and Summer Conference.
4. To amend Standing Order 3.3 - Members of Conference. "Members of the Conference must be Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans on a self-determining basis." to be replaced with "Members of the Conference must be Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans or Queer on a self-determining basis."
5. To amend Standing Order 3.3 to include the text:
'Queer', when determining a delegate's entitlement to attend LGBT campaign conference, refers to students who could self-define as LGBT but choose not to define their sexual orientation or gender identity or expression in these terms, and therefore identify as Queer.
6. Students who are both heterosexual and non-trans will not be included in this definition of Queer.
7. To strive to be inclusive of all members of our campaign, whilst consistently and robustly defending our autonomy.

Heading: Democracy and Disabled Students

Conference believed:

1. Many students with mental ill-health self define as Disabled Students.

Conference further believed:

1. It is vital that Disabled Students be given proper access to enable them to take an active role in this campaign
2. That this conference as the sovereign body of the campaign should be as accessible to disabled students as possible
3. That there have been problems with the publishing of Conference documents, and dates that have meant that disabled students have not been able to make a full contribution to the work of this campaign through this conference

Conference resolved:

1. That Steering should consult the Disabled students rep on committee to make sure that all conference documents are in the most accessible format that dates are published in plenty of time, and timelines are conducive to maximum participation.
2. For the steering committee to publish the date of the drafting commission in the first notice of conference (CD1).

Heading: Building in Further Education

Conference believed:

1. That Further Education students represent 66% of NUS membership.
2. That currently only three out of twenty members of LGBT committee are from FE, even though all positions are open to FE.
3. That the NUS FE campaign has worked hard to ensure the FE voice is heard in NUS through its leadership events and work program.

Conference further believed:

1. That this year the centre for excellence in leadership in conjunction with the NUS LGBT Campaign produced a report on 'the leadership challenge in Further Education'.
2. That the recommendations from this report included 'Support for the development and work of LGB staff and student groups'.
3. That the outcomes from the student survey showed that Nearly a quarter of respondents said they are unable to support LGB students.
4. The majority of respondents identified advice from NUS and LGB student groups as the main sources of support they would like to have available to them.
5. That the LGBT campaign is part of the group, which includes trade unions and sector organisations, working to take forward the recommendations of the report.
6. That some FE staff still worry about the effects of Section 28, even though this was repealed.
7. Further Education LGBT groups are, more often than not, less well funded and resourced than HE groups.

Conference resolved:

1. For the LGBT campaign to continue to fully participate in the group working to forward the recommendations from the report.

2. To seek funding for an FE LGBT Development worker to build resourced and sustainable student groups in Further Education.
3. To hold an event with the NUS Further Education campaign and the FE sector about the challenges LGBT students face in Further Education.

Heading: NUS and National Student Pride

Conference believed:

1. That the first two Student Pride events in 2005 and 2006 have been successful.
2. Student Pride has aimed to combine political and social aspects of the LGBT Student Community.
3. Student Pride is a not for profit venture founded on LGBT activism and collectivism.

Conference further believed:

1. Student pride is the only National Pride event currently in existence.
2. Events that bring LGBT students together in an environment that offers political, social and educational benefit should be encouraged.
3. That current support for Student Pride is based on the preferences of individual officers and committee members and a more solid future of support is needed.

Conference resolved:

1. To mandate the LGBT Committee to work with National Student Pride and support its activities in any way it can.
2. To encourage individual LGBT Societies to support Student Pride and regional Student Pride events.
3. To offer to promote its activities at Student Pride events.

Heading: Fighting for LGBT people as workers and students

Conference believed:

1. That this year the LGBT campaign won the £20,000 from the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) to run an anti-homophobic bullying campaign, after being contacted by the LGBT staff group within RBS.
2. That all RBS asked in return was for their logo and graduate recruitment website to be published on the materials, not at all demanding for £20,000.
3. That in recent years lobbying has become a fundamental tool to achieving LGBT rights, most recently mass lobbying by NUS LGBT, Stonewall, trade unions and other LGBT organisations achieved goods and services protections for LGBT people.
4. We recognise that RBS, like many organisations, has not always been progressive on LGBT rights but have recently worked hard to become one of the top LGBT employers in the UK, a member of the Stonewall diversity champions and LGBT staff within RBS have lead the way to achieving this.
5. That the RBS funding for bullying sucks has more than tripled the campaigning budget for this year.
6. That funding for bullying sucks has allowed the campaign to spend more on other projects like Donation not Discrimination.
7. That it is a positive step forward that more of society now takes LGBT liberation seriously.
8. That LGBT liberation is more likely to happen if it is a cause which is actively campaigned on, and supported by the whole of society.
9. That the LGBT officers have done a great job of finding funding to ensure that our struggle is publicised, and that building partnerships across society, with workers groups government and business, is the right direction for this campaign to be going in.
10. That the oppression of LGBT persons is not the fault of themselves but is the fault of the barriers that society has placed upon us
11. That it is the responsibility of all in society to respect the LGBT communities autonomy, to reach out to, and not ghettoise LGBT communities, and to fight for the liberation of all LGBT people.
12. That we are proud of our history, and excited about the future.

Conference further believed:

1. That employers selling themselves to LGBT graduates is a good thing which benefits LGBT students and society.
2. That the bullying sucks campaign was also in cooperation with three major teaching trade unions.
3. That the NUS liberation campaigns are committed to seeking funding to make the lives of students better, all other liberation campaigns within NUS seek external funding for projects.
4. That to ban external funding would not only limit our work but it would financially cripple our campaign at a time when NUS needs to diversify its income streams.

Conference resolved:

1. To continue to seek external funding for our projects.
2. To build partnerships with workers groups, the government, and business to further the LGBT cause so that the whole of society is involved in fighting for the liberation of LGBT Students
3. To build a movement of LGBT students working in partnership with others on our campuses to smash bullying and discrimination.

SOCIETY AND CITIZENSHIP ZONE

Heading: Discrimination in goods and services

Conference believed:

1. That new protections from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the provision of goods and services will become law on the 30th April 2007.
2. That gaining these protections was hard fought. And the NUS LGBT Campaign played its part in fighting for equality in goods and services including a lobby of parliament on the issue in 2005.
3. That the new protections do not cover harassment, and are not as robust as the Northern Ireland regulations.
4. That Trans people are still subject to discrimination in goods and services although the government have promised to legislate before the November deadline set by the European Union.
5. That some religious groups fought to have adoption agencies exempt from the new regulations and have been granted a 21-month exemption to ensure 'expertise' is not lost.
6. That only time will tell if the Catholic Church will carry out its threat to close its adoption agencies rather than comply with the regulations.

Conference further believed:

1. That like the workplace regulations and the repeal of section 28 many students are unaware of how these regulations will impact on them.
2. That the CEHR will have the responsibility of publicising the new regulations.

Conference resolved:

1. To fully welcome these new protections in law.
2. To campaign for robust protections for Trans people in the provision in goods and services.
3. To work with the CHER and trade union movement to ensure students not only are aware of their rights but take ownership of them also.

Heading: Childcare**Conference believed:**

1. There is an assumption by service providers and support groups that LGBT people are not parents and that parents are not LGBT.
2. LGBT parents routinely have their needs overlooked both by service providers and support groups, but also within our campaign.
3. The assumption that parents are not LGBT reinforces heteronormativity and undermines LGBT student parent identities.
4. This assumption can add to the feeling of isolation many LGBT people experience by restricting their access to support for parents, and also to support for LGBT people.
5. LGBT student parents have just as much right to participate in LGBT society activities as all LGBT students.

Conference further believed:

1. Childcare can be extremely expensive, and most LGBT student parents cannot afford to pay for childcare during the evenings as well as during the day.
2. Most LGBT student groups organise socials and other activities, which usually take place in the evening – a time when most LGBT student parents would not be able to attend.
3. LGBT parents may be put off from being active in their LGBT society if they are not explicitly welcomed.

Conference resolved:

1. To work with the NUS Women's campaign to campaign for free childcare in universities and colleges.
2. To produce a briefing for LGBT societies on including LGBT students with childcare responsibilities, with specific information on inclusive socials and campaigns.

Heading: International Rights – Our Fight**Conference believed:**

1. Six countries still impose the death penalty for homosexuality, and more than ten times that many criminalise us and persecute us. In many more countries, homophobia and transphobia is institutionalised.
2. Refugees fearing for their lives due to their sexual orientation or gender identity are asking for asylum in the UK.
3. There has been no action in the UK to stamp out the abuse of LGBT refugees in UK asylum detention camps – this is a result of a lack of Home Office policy in this area.
4. At least 14 refugees in the past few years have committed suicide to avoid going back to face persecution in their home country.
5. That in many countries across the world being LGBT is punishable by hard labour, incarceration and sometimes death.
6. That some countries have in recent years brought in deeply discriminating laws against 'sodomy'.
7. That European Union countries and council of Europe members such as Russia and Poland also discriminate against their LGBT citizens.
8. That in many countries lesbian women are raped or their genitals mutilated to force them to conform to heterosexuality.
9. In the work already carried out by the LGBT Campaign, demonstrating outside the Ugandan Embassy and the freedom fax campaign.
10. In addition to Europe, many less economically developed countries such as India also have outdated laws regarding homosexuality.

11. While these laws, dating from the colonial era, are often not fully implemented, they are an insult to LGBT people, cementing their inequality and promoting homophobia.
12. In the work carried out by London LGBT groups such as King's LGBT uniting with Amnesty to promote decriminalisation of homosexuality in India.
13. UK immigration detention centres and the incarceration and deportation of people seeking asylum from persecution and war.
14. The deportation of LGBT asylum seekers and their incarceration in UK detention centres.
15. Recent riots at Campsfield and Harmondsworth detention centres.
16. The systematic kidnapping and removal to detention centres of asylum seekers ordered to report to Dallas Court Reporting Centre.
17. The demonstration held by the Congo Support Network at Dallas Court Reporting Centre demanding an end to deportations of asylum seekers and incarceration in detention centres.
18. The direct action blockades held at airports in protest against the deportation of LGBT asylum seekers.
19. The planned detention centre at Gatwick and the 21st April demonstration and day of action against it called by NoBorders.
20. The campaign: Florence and Michael Must Stay is desperately trying to get the Home office to grant Florence and Michael the right to remain in the UK.
21. Florence fled Sierra Leone because she was suffering physical abuse including beatings by her parents and rape by her cousin, who she had been forced to marry. This all happened because Florence told her parents she is a lesbian.

Conference further believed:

1. That the UK's policies of incarcerating and deporting people seeking safety are disgusting.
2. That we should fight these policies through demonstration and direct action.
3. That the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) [articles 2 and 26] protects LGBT people from discrimination.
4. Many signatory nations to the ICCPR are continuing to victimise LGBT people within their borders.
5. Articles 2 & 3 of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights also protects the rights of LGBT people, many African nations are signatories.
6. The European Union, has as a rule of membership, a right to freedom of sexuality – a rule blatantly flaunted by some of the new accession countries.
7. Cultures historically tolerant of alternative sexuality, through occupation and colonialism, now are "hungover" into the concept of heterosexism.
8. Israfil Shiri, a gay refugee, walked into the offices of Refugee Action, doused himself in petrol and burned himself alive in preference to being deported back to Iran.
9. There is no official policy supporting the right of refugees to claim asylum on the grounds of sexual orientation. This means that there is no maintained database of accurate, up-to-date information on the violent victimisation of LGBT people in other countries.
10. There is no policy for asylum staff and adjudicators to undergo training on sexual orientation and gender identity issues.
11. When Florence turned to the police in her home country, for help, they turned her away.
12. Alongside the beatings and rapes, Florence found out that her parents were planning to force her to undergo female genital mutilation to 'cure' her.
13. Florence's application for asylum was turned down by the Home Office and the courts on the basis that her story is not credible and she could simply move to another part of Sierra Leone. Homosexuality is illegal all over Sierra Leone!
14. The application was refused because Florence could not prove that there was "a sustained pattern or campaign of persecution against her which was knowingly tolerated by authorities". However, in 2004 Fannyann Eddy the founder of the Sierra Leone Lesbian and Gay Foundation was brutally attacked, gang raped and murdered in her office and the police refused help for previous attacks and have still not found the people responsible.

Conference resolved:

1. To prioritise the fight for international LGBT rights, lobbying the United Nations, European Union and other cross continental bodies such as the African Union.
2. To enable Students Unions to work on such issues by providing them with information and resources.
3. To work with Amnesty International on a campaign to bring international LGBT rights to the forefront of our work.
4. To continue to promote active campaigns like letter-writing and contacting local MPs with international links (e.g. Parliamentary/Labour Friends of India etc) to get the issue of equality raised overseas.
5. To contact overseas students' unions to find out about their work in their field of equality and offer our support and solidarity.
6. To organise demonstrations and support direct actions at airports when LGBT asylum seekers are being deported from them.
7. To organise groups to go on future demonstrations called by NoBorders regarding detention centres and deportation.
8. To organise groups to go on future demonstrations at detention centres and reporting centres.
9. That LGBT asylum should be the focus issue for the NUS LGBT campaign on the International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO)
10. The show support in favour of the Brazilian Resolution: to include sexual orientation along with race, religion, political affiliation, disability and other categories of persecution.
11. To encourage LGBT societies to use IDAHO to publicise the victimisation of LGBT asylum seekers and get their students to write letters to the Minister for Immigration to stop this unforgivable crime against human rights.
12. To publicise the campaign: Florence and Michael Must Stay at all regional meetings.

13. To, as a campaign, build support for the petition to call upon the Immigration Minister to grant Florence and Michael the right to remain in the UK on compassionate grounds.
14. To encourage LGBT societies to work together to mobilise a picket at the Immigration Ministers local office.

Heading: Liberation and Occupation

Conference believed:

1. That in 2001, George Bush and Tony Blair launched a “war on terror” that has brought death and destruction to the Middle East.
2. Bush’s response to the disaster is to send more troops to Iraq and ratchet up aggression directed at Iran. In both of these instances, New Labour has been almost alone in supporting the US president.
3. Justification for military intervention in the “war on terror” has often taken the form of talk about reactionary and oppressive regimes and their violation of the rights of LGBT people, women, and other groups.

Conference further believed:

1. Homophobia must be opposed and fought against wherever it exists, be it in the Middle East or back home.
2. Talk of LGBT rights by those seeking to justify wars is hypocritical and a cynical manipulation of hugely important issues in order to pursue massively destructive and brutal military adventures, often by those who attack these same rights back home.
3. George Bush has pursued a disgustingly homophobic agenda including supporting a proposal initiated by Iran opposing the UN granting LGBT organisations consultative status
4. War and occupation are the worst conditions under which to fight for liberation.
5. Bullets, bombs and missiles are indiscriminate in who they maim and kill, be the victims LGBT people, women, or anyone else.
6. Much of the rhetoric about LGBT rights in the Middle East has been coupled with emphasis on the Islamic nature of societies there. This Islamophobia must be strongly opposed by LGBT activists – we are strongest when we are all united against all forms of oppression, and the anti-war movement, that has involved many LGBT people, Muslims and others, is a model of diversity, vibrancy and radical politics, and we should look both to reach out to it, and to draw this spirit into our campaigns.

Conference resolved:

1. To affirm our commitment to internationalism in the struggle against LGBT oppression.
2. To adopt the standpoint of “liberation not occupation”, i.e. that conditions of war and occupation are the worst in which to fight for LGBT liberation.
3. To fight against Islamophobia and aim to build a united movement against LGBT oppression.

Policy passed at LGBT Conference 2008

Zone 100: Steering Committee

Heading: Amendments to the standing Orders

Conference Resolved: to make the following changes to the Standing Orders:

1. In Standing Order 3 (Notice) replace “at least six (6) weeks in advance” with “at least three months in advance”.
2. In Standing Order 3 (Submission of Motions) replace “twenty (20) days before the Conference” with six (6) weeks before the Conference, with the deadline falling on the nearest Friday at 1 p.m.”
3. In the same standing order, replace “At least ten (10) days in advance” with “At least four (4) weeks in advance”
4. In Standing Order 3 (Amendments) replace with “Any Constituent Member or individual may submit no more than four (4) amendments, with not more than one amendment per zone. Amendments may also be submitted to any other motions circulated including Steering Committee motions. The deadline for the submission of amendments shall be at least three (3) weeks before the Conference, with the deadline falling at 1 p.m. on the closest Friday. The rules for the submission of amendments shall be the same as those for motions, except that amendments of more than three hundred (300) words shall be ruled out of order unless they are amendments to the Standing Orders.”
5. In Standing Order 3 (Priority Ballot) replace “in which they wish motions to be taken” with “in which they wish the zones and/or motions to be taken”
6. In Standing Order 3 (Policy Lapse) replace “each meeting of the NUS LGBT Campaign” with “each meeting of the Annual LGBT Conference”
7. In Standing Order 6 (Amendments to these Standing Orders) replace with “These Standing Orders may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Conference; provided that the basic form of the amendments was circulated with the Motions Document. Emergency Motions may not seek to amend these Standing Orders, except if submitted by the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee shall be empowered to update these Standing Orders, applying plain English after each meeting of the Conference, and may make additional changes to ensure compliance with the NUS Constitution. Amendments approved by the Conference shall not come into effect until the close of the Conference meeting at which they were agreed, unless the Conference approves a special resolution, moved by either the Steering Committee, the Elections Committee or the LGBT Committee/LGBT Officers and is approved by a two-thirds majority. Such a resolution must be submitted to the Steering Committee immediately following the agreement to amend the Standing Orders.”

Zone 200: Strong & Active Unions Zone

Motion Number: 201

Motion Heading: For a Modern, Grassroots LGBT Campaign

Conference believed

1. That the NUS LGBT Campaign has existed in many forms since its foundation, starting out as the gay campaign, later becoming the Lesbian and gay campaign, the LGB campaign and now the NUS LGBT Campaign.
2. That since our foundation our rules and governance have been added to altered and amended but never comprehensively reviewed.
3. That our campaign has been a force for good for LGBT equality in the UK and it is now time to review all our structures to ensure a modern, grassroots, fighting LGBT campaign that can truly deliver.
4. That NUS UK has just undertaken a full and comprehensive review of governance, looking at all aspects of the organisation’s democracy and legal compliance.
5. That the national governance review process has been attacked by some students unions and that any review of the LGBT campaign must be led by LGBT students, must be transparent and should engage with our members from all parts of the UK, from HE and FE, from all political persuasions.
6. That NUS liberation campaigns are stronger when they are united;
7. That equality cannot and should not be achieved when attacking the rights or resources of one oppressed group over another;
8. That the last two years have brought liberation campaigns to the heart of NUS campaigns, fighting for change for oppressed groups;
9. That reviews of the structures and democracy of NUS, in recent years, have always begun with the premise that the four NUS liberation campaigns should be equal in terms of resource provision.
10. That any review must be thorough, democratic and inclusive of all LGBT student voices.
11. That presenting one option to conference, after a “consultation” behind closed door, as with the NUS Governance Review, is not good enough.
12. In recent years, there has been considerable debate over the best way for the LGBT Campaign to be represented, convened and led. Suggestions include:
 - The current structure: One LGBT Officer (Open place) and one LGBT Officer (Women’s place)
 - Abolishing the LGBT Officer (Women’s place) position and make the LGBT Officer (Open place) position full time
 - Keep the 2 Officer structure and making both of these full time.
13. This issue is an extremely important one for the LGBT campaign, as any decision taken would impact heavily on the way in which the campaign represents and campaigns for the rights of LGBT students.

14. All debates on this issue in the past have been narrow and divisive. Delegates would benefit from participating in a proper informed debate about this important issue. No one should simply be presented with a 'representation versus effectiveness' argument.
15. That it is important to mobilize as many students as is possible within our campaign.
16. That it is important to excite the membership about Campaigning activities in order to maximize participation and activism.
17. The role of the NUS LGBT Campaign is to fight for the rights of LGBT students.
18. Some students who define themselves under the wider scope of "LGBT" do not define themselves specifically as lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans.
19. Some such students choose to define themselves as Queer, to avoid the societal norms forced on them by the labels of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or trans, and that these students can face discrimination based on their perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
20. It is currently necessary to define specifically as lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans in order to participate in the democracy of the NUS LGBT campaign.
21. A motion was debated at LGBT Conference 2007 regarding Queer inclusion.. Many delegates found this debate confusing, and many felt ill-informed of the issues at stake.
22. That self-identity is an important part of self-expression and unrestricted self-identity is crucial in a hetero-normative society.
23. Currently there are two part time officers for the LGBT Campaign. 1 (Women place) 1 (Open place).
24. That at LGBT Summer Conference 2007, delegates voted to include a 'Queer caucus' in our campaign
25. That a growing number of people identify with marginalised sexual orientations or gender identities outside of or in addition to the traditional concepts of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans.
26. That these sexual orientations and gender identities are currently unrepresented by any campaign within the National Union.
27. That the most obvious place for these identities to be represented is within the LGBT Campaign due to the fact that we all face many similar and interlinked oppressions which stem from the heteropatriarchal system in our society.
28. An ever increasing number of student bodies, both CM's and otherwise, are making changes so that individuals who do not identify with the closed concepts of LGBT are welcome.
29. That with the exception of the women's caucus, for over the last two years, Queer caucus has been the largest caucus at LGBT Conference.
30. The NUS LGBT campaign, like all NUS Liberation campaigns, places a high value on its autonomy.
31. There is no accepted definition of Queer.

Conference further believed

1. That in 2005 the NUS LGB campaign became the NUS LGBT campaign, this was after three years of sometimes divisive debate.
2. That in 2006 and 2007 the issue of Queer inclusion has been discussed at conference, with some wanting a Queer campaign, others wanting to include Queer students who face similar prejudice and others against the idea.
3. Issues such as the number of delegates to conference, cost of delegations, having one or two NUS LGBT officers, the make up of LGBT Committee, the procedure for submission of motions, what motion zones we should have, accountability of the Officers and Committee, and whether we should have Conference at the weekend or at other times have all been discussed over the past few years.
4. The governance of our campaign is currently decided by a three minute speech for and a three minute speech against. This isn't sufficient for an inclusive, informed debate to take place around the reform of our fundamental structures. Instead, we should take time to have a genuine debate about how we run NUS LGBT.
5. That a full review including proper consultation of students will engage more students in discussion and debate than we can at conference.
6. It's time to have a full and honest debate about our future as a campaign.
7. That NUS has a commitment to ensuring that all liberation campaigns are treated equally by NUS and that the inequality of the past should not be returned to;
8. That inequality still exists in NUS resource provision to liberation campaigns, in particular on staff support;
9. That NUS is committed to ensuring fundraising addresses this inequality;
10. That suggestions that one liberation campaign should have more officers, money or resources than another is unfair and strikes at the heart of the inequality that liberation officers have effectively addressed in recent years
11. That any review must include LGBT people from every region, the special nations and from within each caucus.
12. It is right to reflect on what we want our LGBT Officers to do, but not in a way, which means that only a handful of people can engage in an agenda driven debate. More information and options are needed to make a good decision.
13. That in order to encourage a strong, organized campaigning group of students, we need strong, organized campaigning leaders.
14. That the best way to organize over the course of the year is to set out a list of objectives at the beginning of the year.
15. Changing our democratic entitlement requirements to include Queer students is a big step which will impact on the campaign as a whole, and, if taken, must be a step that the campaign embraces.
16. The best way to take the decision of whether, and how, to include Queer students is through well-informed discussion and debate at consultation events to come up with a variety of options, followed by a democratic debate at LGBT Conference.
17. That inclusion of those who self-define as Queer does not force anyone else to adopt this self-identity.
18. There are a number of minority groups that face similar misunderstanding, discrimination and prejudice to the LGBT community.

19. That the term Queer carries a stigma, and as such anyone defining as Queer faces misunderstanding, discrimination and prejudice from both within the LGBT community and from the general public.
20. That the term Queer is grounded in our movement's history, in our activism and in carefully thought out theory.
21. That all people who experience prejudice based on their sexual orientation or gender identity should be represented on, in and by the LGBT Campaign where appropriate whether they fit into the narrowly defined LGBT umbrella or into the wider LGBTQ Community.
22. That by including those who define as Queer, significantly more delegates could be accurately represented.
23. Those who are oppressed or discriminated against should be the ones to define that oppression or discrimination, and also the ones to decide how that oppression or discrimination should be tackled.

Conference resolved

1. For the NUS LGBT campaign to undertake a full review of its democratic structures during the academic year 2008-09.
2. That this review must LGBT student led, incorporating extensive accessible consultation at regional events.
3. To set up a review body to steer the process, made up of elected LGBT student representatives.
 1. To conclude this review and present a constitutional amendment for debate at NUS LGBT Conference 2009
 2. To campaign with, support and work closely with other liberation campaigns in NUS;
 3. To continue to support liberation resource equality amongst the NUS liberation campaigns;
 4. To oppose any calls for more officers (i.e. two full time officers), more staff support (i.e. two full time staff) or greater resources for one liberation campaign over another;
 5. To continue to address discrimination as part of a wider social problem for all minority and oppressed groups.
6. That the NUS LGBT Officers and NUS LGBT Committee will co-ordinate and run a series of regional consultation events, open only to self-defining LGBT students, throughout the next academic year, with the aim of facilitating discussion on the new standing orders.
7. That these consultation events will be run as economically as possible, ensuring that they are cost effective.
8. That ordinary LGBT students, Students' Union LGBT Officers, LGBT Societies and other groups and individuals will be able to feed into the Review either face-to-face at the consultation events, or electronically by email or questionnaire.
9. That the NUS LGBT Officers will work with the NUS Scotland LGBT Officer, NUS Wales LGBT Officer and NUS LGBT Committee caucus representatives to ensure that every LGBT voice is heard.
10. That this review must be LGBT student led, with steering meetings open to all, minutes published online, and extensive consultation of those unable to make meetings.
11. To present at least two options for new structures to LGBT Conference 2009 for discussion.
12. To prioritise the examination of all potential options regarding the Officer(s) of the LGBT campaign as part of any review of the campaign's democratic structures.
13. To ensure that ordinary student LGBT Officers and Chairs form the majority of the committee which steers any review of the LGBT campaign's democratic structures.
14. This committee must fully cost all potential options and make clear the implications in terms of representation, efficiency and productivity for all of these options.
15. To make the guiding principles of this committee effective campaigning and representation and inclusion of women in our campaign.
16. To mandate newly-elected officers to formulate a course of action before the beginning of each academic year, detailing their objectives for the coming year and personal deadlines for each objective.
17. To mandate each Officer to work towards achieving the goals set out in this plan over the course of the year.
18. To make the issue of inclusion of self-defining Queer students a priority for discussion and debate in the event of any review of NUS LGBT's democratic structures.
19. To ensure that people who identify as Queer are not excluded or marginalised at conference.
20. Students who are both heterosexual and non-trans will not be included in this definition of Queer
21. To strive to be inclusive of all members of our campaign, whilst consistently and robustly defending our autonomy.

Motion Heading: Back to Our Roots – Activism

Conference believed:

1. That there are huge challenges facing students in Further and Higher education
2. That one of the main roles of our movement should be to empower and engage with students on the ground so that we can achieve real change in the lives of LGBT student in our institutions.
3. That this year, winter conference was for the first time replaced with regional activist training days.
4. That these activist training days helped to empower and train LGBT students, as well as developing regional campaigning, especially in the sharing of best practice.
5. That participation in the activist training days shows us that engaging with more ordinary students helps increase involvement of under represented groups in our campaign, especially FE students.
6. That networking and sharing best practice are important and should continue

Conference further believed:

1. That if developed further, LGBT Activist Training Days have the potential to revolutionise the way our campaign engages with LGBT students, and the way our campaigns are rolled out on campuses up and down the country.
2. That our campaigns and Activist Training Days must be accessible, user friendly and easy to get involved in, in order to engage with ordinary students.

3. NUS LGBT Committee are an underappreciated and underdeveloped resource of amazing activists and we need to support them, so that they can support us in our societies when we need it.
4. No liberation struggle or gain has ever been won without direct action and mass campaigning
5. Activist training days should offer LGBT activists the chance to learn the basics of organising direct action, including how to set up and maintain a campaign, run a campaign meeting, produce materials and hold a picket or demonstration.
6. These skills exist within our movement and must be shared

Conference resolved:

1. To make recruiting, training and supporting LGBT student activists our number one priority in 2008-2009, because we won't win any of our battles for equality if we don't excite and mobilise our students.
2. To run Activist Training Days in first term 2008, aiming to double the number of students attending.
3. To look into the possibility of running two Training Days per region
4. To work to ensure that half of delegates to the activist academies are women and at least a quarter are from further education institutions.
5. To devote the time of our NUS LGBT Officers and LGBT Committee to developing students on our campuses, to win our local battles and achieve equality in the issues that matter to us
6. To use the LGBT Officer and Committee reports to tell delegates how many students they have reached and trained in the year.
7. To incorporate training on direct action techniques, including those mentioned above, in Activist Training Days.
8. To produce a "how to" guide to activist campaigning for LGBT students

Motion Heading: NUS Governance

Conference believed:

1. That NUS debated a wide ranging review of its governance at annual conference 2008;
2. This review was supported by the NUS LGBT campaign;
3. The NUS Disabled Students' campaign fully supported the NUS governance review and a motion criticising the governance review failed at NUS Women's conference;
4. This review passed with a majority but did not receive the required two thirds majority in order to change the NUS constitution.

Conference further believed:

1. NUS needs to reform in order to be financially viable and fit for purpose;
2. In 2009 there will be a review of the cap on tuition fees and NUS must focus its efforts on ensuring that the current £3000 cap on tuition fees is not lifted;
3. That in order to do this NUS must be a strong, active, fighting union with its house in order;
4. Any governance review of NUS must take into account the excellence, value and autonomy of the NUS LGBT campaign;
5. Continued consultation is required in order to ensure that governance proposals are acceptable to the membership of NUS.

Motion Heading: Leadership in Our Movement

Conference believed

1. The foundation of a 'liberation' movement is that people who suffer from discrimination must be the ones who overcome it. This basically means that 'straight' people can absolutely campaign alongside us, but we as LGBT students must be the ones to decide when that's appropriate and which fights we want to pick, and what we want the solutions to be. Otherwise we won't achieve equality – we'll be given something else to keep us quiet.
2. In students' unions, so few Union Councillors, Conference Delegates, Sabbatical Officers and other elected officials are LGBT students that we spend a lot of time having to explain what we want to people who usually don't understand our movement for equality. This is such a barrier to progress.
3. There are too many people who don't believe that running in an election for union office is for them. Overwhelmingly, this affects women, black, disabled and LGBT students. Liberation activists rarely make it to the top of our movement.

Conference further believed

1. There are some amazing stories of LGBT students elected to positions of leadership in their union. They've achieved some fantastic results for students because they've remembered that LGBT equality is an important part of representing students that often gets forgotten.
2. With coaching and support, there could be a whole new generation of LGBT students leading in their union and in the student movement. We need to put effort into developing the ambition and skills of LGBT students so that we get a seat at the decision table.

Conference resolved

1. To reaffirm our position that we believe that more LGBT people should be in positions of leadership in the student movement.
2. We should use part of our training of activities to equip people with the skills to write and pass policy in their student union and run and win in elections.

3. To support a network of LGBT Officers so that we can make change for students better, bigger and stronger because we work together.
4. To mandate the LGBT officers to work with the factions to ensure that the LGBT and other students are not excluded by their internal selection procedures.

Motion Heading: Small & Specialist Colleges

Conference believed

1. That work is already underway in setting up an LGBT group/society in every FE college through the strategic project between V, the LGBT Consortium and the NUS LGBT Campaign.
2. That the 'Under Construction' and an 'Officer In Every Union' has been successful in increasing involvement across the country.
3. That there are small and specialist colleges that do not have LGBT groups/societies or sometimes even LGBT Officers.

Conference Further Believed

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

Conference resolved

1. To mandate the Committee and Officers to work on how this project will be structured and can progress over the summer in time for the regional meetings in Autumn 2008.
2. To provide a toolkit aiming at helping small and specialist college union LGBT Officers as to how to set up an LGBT group/society at an institution that may have limited resources and funding compared to other larger College Unions.
3. To create networks according to each region, so that the Committee can engage with small LGBT Officers to gauge what these officers want from this project, and feed their ideas into it.

Motion Heading: Liberation in Every Union and LGBT Training for All

Conference believed:

1. That an initiative was launched by the Liberation Campaigns of NUS last year promoting the representation of Black, Disabled, LGBT and Women students in the structures our student associations, guilds and unions.
2. Not all Students' Unions currently have a specific representative for LGBT Students.
3. LGBT students have a specific set of needs and requirements during their time at university which may differ from those of non-LGBT students
4. Students' Unions should be safe and non-discriminatory spaces for all their members.
5. It is critical to ensure that staff in Students' Unions, Colleges and Universities, as well as Officers, are acutely aware of the needs of LGBT students along with all self-defining liberation students and all staff receive a degree of training.
6. That a lot of work has been put into this across many sectors and organisations, and that there is a lot we can learn from other organisations and how they approach equality & diversity training
7. The policy passed by annual conference 08 to endorse closer workings between National Union of Students (NUS), National Union of Students Services Ltd. (NUSSL) and the Association of Managers in Students' Unions (AMSU)
8. That AMSU & NUS are best placed to disseminate training information to Students' Union staff, and to support those staff in their own projects
9. That the Association of University Administrators (AUA) has a similar role to play for members of University staff.

Conference further believed:

1. Welfare and Services provision often assumes heterosexuality and ignores trans. identities.
2. That student life should be viewed as a holistic experience for all students, and University is often the time and place where students are first able to explore and express their sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. LGBT students may refrain from seeking help for fear of discrimination.
4. As regards Homophobia, Bi-phobia and Transphobia, prevention is as important as cure.
5. It is not the sole responsibility of LGBTQ people to tackle the discrimination levelled against them and that we need the support and advice of our colleagues in other organisations around the UK.
6. That any training on diversity or LGBT issues should be as widely available, and strongly publicised as possible, to ensure an uptake from any whom might deal with LGBT students.

Conference resolved:

1. For the LGBT Campaign to produce and publicise via the NUS LGBT website, amongst other means, a report on LGBT students' representation within student associations, guilds and unions.
1. This report should contain information on but not excluded to:

- Whether the representative(s) self-define as 'LGBT'.
 - Whether the representation is voted for by self-defining LGBT students.
 - The level of representation i.e. if they sit on Executive Committee/Trustee Board or Union Council/Union Assembly/Union Senate. Parallels should be drawn here between other Liberation Representatives within the same union.
 - Whether there is a LGBT society or similar that meets on a regular basis.
2. To support LGBT and other liberation group students by providing training and information to demystify the election process at annual conferences.
 3. To mandate the NUS LGBT Committee to develop training materials for Students' Union staff which address the specific needs and identities of LGBT students.
 4. To review the contents and effectiveness of this information annually.
 5. To publicise and promote to Students' Unions, guidelines and educational materials created by other organisations which are deemed relevant and useful, and incorporate this best practice into our own advice and guidance.
 6. To work closely with AMSU, NUS, AUA and other relevant organisations on this project, and present the results of this collaboration to NUS LGBT Conference '09.

Student Rights & Welfare Zone

Motion Heading: LGBT Mental Health

Conference believes:

1. That LGBT people are more likely to suffer mental ill health than their straight counterparts;
2. That students are more likely to suffer from mental ill health, particularly depressive and anxiety conditions;
3. That societal discrimination and exclusion is a likely key cause of the prevalence of mental ill health in the LGBT community
4. That the NUS LGBT campaign and the NUS Disabled Students' campaign have worked together closely over the last two years to campaign for improved access to mental health services for LGBT people

Conference further believes:

1. That research has shown that many mental health professionals are not trained in LGBT specific issues
2. That a coalition of organisations, led by the NUS Disabled Students' campaign, have worked together to create an organisation that will accredit mental health services on their ability to provide services to LGBT people
3. That funding for this organisation has been sourced and it is hoped that services can begin in 2009
4. That this proactive approach to ensure quality in LGBT mental health services should be welcomed

Conference resolves:

1. To commit officer and committee time and resources to this important project
2. To continue to work closely with the NUS Disabled Students' campaign on the issue of LGBT mental health

Motion Heading: Opposing Cuts in HIV Prevention for Gay and Bisexual Men

Conference believed:

1. NHS privatisation hits liberation groups the hardest – working-class, LGBT, black, women and disabled people are most likely to depend on free healthcare.
2. In November 2007 the Health Protection Agency revealed that the number of gay and bisexual men diagnosed with HIV in the UK is at its highest rate since the beginning of the epidemic, rising by 20% in the past five years. Estimates suggest 1 in 10 gay and bisexual men in London are living with HIV.
3. Despite this, the consortium of London Primary Care Trusts that provides pan-London HIV prevention work currently propose to spend £1.15m on pan-London prevention work targeted at gay and bisexual men in 2008-9, a cut of 36% from the 2007-8 allocation.
4. The budget for HIV prevention work for 2008-9 is less than was spent on gay men 10 years ago, when the precursor to the current London Gay Men's HIV Prevention Programme invested over £2million per year in HIV prevention with gay men. In the same 10 year period, the number of people being seen for HIV care has trebled.
5. The budget cuts were announced without proper consultation with gay and HIV organisations, and against the advice of expert HIV agencies such as GMFA and the Terrence Higgins Trust.
6. The Keep Our NHS Public Campaign is a major public campaign against NHS cuts and privatisation, and brings together trade unionists and community activists on a national level. NUS NEC has voted to affiliate to Keep Our NHS Public.

Conference further believed:

1. Currently it is estimated that 47% of HIV positive gay or bisexual men who visit a sexual health clinic leave without being tested for HIV. In Cardiff last year there was a nine-week wait for access to sexual health services, whilst in Northern Ireland there was a six-week wait.
2. Cutting finance for HIV prevention work amongst high risk groups is callous and recklessly negligent: a budget cut will lead to a reduction in already inadequate services, running the real risk of seeing HIV infection rates in London soar.
3. Cuts in HIV prevention programmes gamble with the lives of gay and bisexual men. Funding for HIV prevention and testing must be urgently increased and the government must make adequate policy commitments to control the epidemic.

- Such incidences of gross abdication of responsibility in public health management only serve as evidence as to why health management must remain under democratic public control and not under the control of semi-autonomous, market driven NHS Trusts.
- Protests and lobbying in sexual health have historically seen victories in reversing proposed cuts to services.
- The NUS LGBT has a duty to stand against the privatisation of the NHS, and the welfare state in general, alongside trade unions and community campaigns.

Conference resolved:

- To campaign against cuts which undermine life-saving sexual health programmes for gay and bisexual men and to argue for obligatory spending on HIV prevention for all NHS Trusts.
- To campaign for a reprioritisation in investment in HIV prevention that vastly exceeds, let alone matches, the amount invested ten years ago when the number being treated for HIV was a third of that today.
- To campaign for a 100% public and democratically run NHS and affiliate to the 'Keep our NHS Public' campaign for better access to healthcare for LGBT students.

Motion Heading: For the Good of Our Health For an LGBT-Inclusive Healthcare System

Conference believed:

- That LGBT people continuously face inequality in the health service due to lack of adequate training of healthcare professionals
- That students in both FE and HE, especially LGBT students, find it hard to access appropriate physical, mental and sexual health care due to the costs involved
- That LBT women often bear the brunt of this inequality due to lack of knowledge surrounding women's sexuality, sexism and transphobia rife in the health service.
- LBT Women have a right to make choices over their own bodies, including whether to become pregnant, or terminate a pregnancy.
- 83% of British people support a woman's right to abortion. 19 million women worldwide have unsafe abortions every year. 68,000 die and 5.3 million are injured as a result.
- Amendments to restrict abortion rights are expected to be tabled in Parliament; to lower the current 24 week time limit, introduce mandatory delays and compulsory counselling for women seeking abortion.
- Only 1.6% of abortions take place between 20 & 24 weeks. They are needed by women, facing exceptional and distressing circumstances. Further restrictions would force women to continue an unwanted pregnancy, travel abroad for a termination, or seek dangerous alternatives.
- Mandatory delays and compulsory counselling assume women are incapable of reaching their own decision about abortion, and would cause further distress.
- Such restrictions have the capacity to disproportionately affect LBT women, as they already experience alienation and a lack of understanding from the health sector due to their identity.

Conference further believed:

- NUS welfare zone are currently campaign for free prescriptions and GUM clinics on campuses
- Both free prescriptions and free GUM clinics on campuses would benefit LGBT student in accessing healthcare.
- Medical schools should provide training for junior doctors, and all healthcare professionals on sexual orientation and gender identity issues
- A mass lobby of Parliament and rally are planned to coincide with key votes in Parliament.
- Further protests and demonstrations will be held at the most appropriate times as the Bill progresses.
- Policy was passed by the Disabled Students campaign to support, defend & extend abortion rights.

Conference resolved:

- To make campaigning for better access to healthcare for LGBT students a priority in 2008-09
- To launch regional based campaigns so that LGBT groups can lobby for better physical, mental and sexual healthcare provisions in their student unions and local areas
- To support and engage in the welfare zones campaign for free healthcare for students, making sure that the LGBT voice is heard at all levels.
- To lobby the BMA to implement adequate training for all junior doctors on sexual orientation and gender identity issues.
- To make sure we include LBT women, and trans specific issues in all of our healthcare campaigning.
- To strongly support, defend & extend the open access to medical treatments such as artificial insemination, pre-natal treatment & abortions for LBT women.
- Work with Abortion Rights & NUS Women's campaign to oppose anti-choice amendments and support improvements in the law.
- Work with women's officers & women students to defend and improve women's abortion rights & raise awareness of LBT women facing discrimination or misunderstanding when exercising their right to choose.

Motion Heading: The Anthony Nolan Trust: Sensible Donation Policies

Conference believed;

- The Anthony Nolan Trust is an independent charity which fights leukaemia by collecting bone marrow donations and undertaking research into the disease.
- The Anthony Nolan Trust had to operate under the same donation policies as the National Blood and Transfusion Service for years. This meant that they had to refuse donations from any man who has had sex with a man.

Conference further believed:

1. The rules about donation have recently changed and now the Anthony Nolan Trust accepts that being a man who has had sex with men is not a reason for disqualification! They believe that it is a risk assessment based on your behaviour that should decide whether you are a dangerous donor.
2. This is a phenomenally exciting change in policy! Students working with the Anthony Nolan trust helped make this policy acceptable to students' unions that campaign against discriminative donation policies, and now bone marrow donations groups exist on loads of campuses.
3. That the Anthony Nolan Trust should be really proud of using sensible science instead of outdated discrimination in deciding who they ask to join their donor register.

Conference resolved:

1. To congratulate the Anthony Nolan Trust on their progressive and inclusive donation policy, and to write to them saying how excited we are that they took the first step in making donation fair and inclusive.
2. To ask the Anthony Nolan Trust to be proud enough to publicise this change in policy so that everyone knows that they were the first.
3. To welcome the creation of Marrow Societies on campus, which encourage all students – including men who have had sex with men – to join the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Register.
4. To aggressively campaign against the, now publicly discredited, NBTS policy and use the examples of the Anthony Nolan Trust in our campaigning.

Motion Heading: Trans & LGB Equality Now!**Conference believed:**

1. That in 2005 the NUS LGB campaign became the NUS LGBT Campaign. This is because we believe that although the causes of LGBT discrimination are varied and complex, historically lesbians, gay men, bisexual and trans people have all faced oppression because our existence challenges rigid and repressive notions of appropriate gender behaviour. Frequently, the prejudice against and stereotyping of trans people has been virtually indistinguishable from that directed against lesbians, gay men and bisexuals and has been supported by similar narratives of morality, naturalness and normalcy.
2. That there are major differences in Law relating to the protection of LGB and Trans people.
3. That the Westminster Parliament's definition when legislating to protect trans people is limiting and only protects some Transsexual people in law.
4. That the definition put forward by members of the Scottish Parliament for the Sentencing of Offences Aggravated by Prejudice (Scotland) Bill, attempts to cover not just transsexual people but anyone 'whose gender expression does not fit into the gender norm' including transsexual people, cross-dressers, intersex people and androgyne people.
5. That on 6th April new regulations make it unlawful for a provider of goods, facilities and services to directly discriminate against, or harass, on grounds of gender reassignment someone they are providing the goods, facilities or services to.
6. That the new Sex Discrimination (Amendment of Legislation) Regulations 2008 only cover a small amount of trans people and Indirect discrimination (where a rule or practice is applied equally to everyone but it has a disproportionately negative impact on people who intend to undergo, are undergoing or have undergone gender reassignment) is not prohibited.
7. Trans students are an integral part of our campaign.
8. Little is known about trans issues, even within the LGBT movement
9. Many activists who wish to involve trans people or work on trans issues simply do not know how to.
10. Every year a large number of student activists wish to know how they can best represent and campaign for trans students on their campus.
11. There are still no explicit protections in law at all for many trans people.
12. Protection for trans people in law is on the grounds of "gender reassignment", which is defined as "a process...undertaken with medical supervision for the purposes of reassigning a person's sex."
13. Trans Youth Network – a new campaigning organisation – are currently planning a demonstration outside the Houses of Parliament to draw attention to the plight of young trans people, on a date to be announced.

Conference further believed:

1. That in 1999 and 2003 respectively, LGB and some Transsexual people achieved protections from discrimination in employment, other trans people are not protected.
2. That protections for trans people against incitement to hatred have been left out of the Criminal Justice and Immigration Bill while sexual orientation will be covered.
3. That the gender equality duty includes provisions that public bodies must work to eliminate discrimination against transsexual people, however it does not cover other trans people. The Government have committed to including a sexual orientation duty in the new single Equality Bill.
4. That in a meeting with members of NUS LGBT Barbara Follett, Equalities Minister says that we should be working with Government to make the definition of trans more inclusive.
5. It is the definition of "gender reassignment" which is the main problem: those who are currently excluded from protection will benefit if existing legislation is amended so that trans people are instead protected on the grounds of being trans as in the Scottish Model.
6. The NUS LGBT Campaign should support the peaceful actions of other campaigning groups such as Trans Youth Network.
7. The "T" can often be sidelined in LGBT campaigns.
8. NUS LGBT events play a key role in increasing awareness of trans issues amongst student activists.
9. Trans workshops at LGBT conference are always very well attended.

10. NUS LGBT regional Activist Academies have a lot of potential for providing information beyond the content of the year's priority campaigns.

Conference resolved:

1. To run a high profile campaign to ensure that all trans people achieve protections from discrimination in Goods and Services and protections from incitement to hatred.
2. That the NUS LGBT campaign should champion a definition of trans to include all trans people, using the Scottish model as good practice, and lobby the government to use this new inclusive model.
3. Lobby the government to keep to its promises on a sexual orientation public duty and lobby for the Gender Duty to cover all trans people.
4. To work with other LGB and T organisations, such as Press for Change, Stonewall and the Scottish Transgender Alliance, to achieve our aims.
5. To continue to lobby in favour of incitement to hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation and to follow closely the passage of Criminal Justice and Immigration Bill, and hold a lobby of parliament should the protections look like they are in danger.
6. To submit to the response to the government consultation on the draft Equality Bill when published later in the year, pushing for equal protections across the equality strands and for the government to include young people in protections.
7. To make the fight for legal protections to be extended to ALL trans people (on a par with other diversity strands such as sexuality) a priority campaign.
8. The NUS LGBT Campaign will offer support and participation to Trans Youth Network's demonstration outside Parliament.
9. To hold at least one trans workshop at NUS LGBT conference every year.
10. To mandate the LGBT officers and committee to ensure that information on how to represent and campaign on behalf of trans students is provided every year at NUS LGBT activists academies.

Motion Heading: Celebrating Pink Parents and Pink Families

Conference believed:

1. The LGBT community has a rich culture of diversity, acceptance, self-expression and love to offer children, and this should be celebrated.
2. There should be more positive images and role models of LGBT parenting, for instance images of loving devoted drag kings and scene queen parents. We must challenge the stereotype that the only way to be a loving devoted parent is to model a straight family.
3. Many LGBT people enter into or remain in straight relationships and marriages because they want to have children.
4. Many LGBT people who want children feel that they will not become parents because they are LGBT
5. Student parents are often excluded from SUs activities, events and democracy by a lack of family friendly activities, childcare resources, attitudes or inappropriately timed meetings
6. Student parents are often excluded from SUs bars and cafes because they have no safe space to go to with their children e.g a child friendly café with toys.
7. LGBT parents are often excluded from both parenting events and LGBT events.
8. Many Out and Proud pink parents re-enter the closet as they are overwhelmed by the heteronormativity of services for parents, or concerned that their children might experience homophobic bullying.
9. A wonderful thing about the SU movement is that it speaks up for members who cannot speak up for themselves.
10. According to the GLA 41% of children in London live below the poverty line.
11. The government has pledged to end child poverty by 2020, and is presenting a Children's Plan.

Conference further believed:

1. Despite the fact that student parents constitute a huge proportion of the student demographic we often can't turn up to SU meetings to make our voice heard due to a lack of family friendly resources in SUs.
2. Some of student parents access needs can be easily and cheaply remedied by provision of simple facilities e.g. highchairs and toys in cafes, baby changing facilities, a private area to breast feed.
3. Some needs are legislative changes such as a period of maternity leave from courses and better grants for parents.
4. Due to exponentially rising fees and increasing student poverty, children of students can easily become caught in the poverty trap.
5. LGBTQAU parents should have a central voice in NUS student parents' plan and government Children's Plan.

Conference resolved:

1. Mandate NUS LGBT committee to include a dedicated section of the NUS LGBT handbook/website to pink parenting issues. This section should include issues such as personal experiences of student pink parents, and ideas for pink family events to be run by student unions.
2. Mandate NUS LGBT committee to represent student pink parents and to promote a diverse range of positive LGBT parent images, such as butch dykes, lipstick lesbians, drag queens, trans women, men and those who don't define etc. as responsible loving devoted parents in order to combat the stereotypes.
3. To hold a pink caring responsibilities caucus.
4. To provide a best practice guide to SU's and a LGBT parent's manifesto to the government.

Motion Heading: We're LGBT Too! Banish Body Fascism for an Inclusive Campaign

Conference believed:

1. Body fascism is an intolerance in self and others of any weight, shape or appearance that doesn't resemble idealised bodies.
2. Body fascism often results in bullying and isolation of those that don't conform to the idealised bodies portrayed in the media.
3. That body fascism is rife within the LGBT Community and on the LGBT "Scene".
4. LGBT societies in our unions, the LGBT community and LGBT scene is often 'homonormative', separatist and doesn't celebrate diversity
5. LGBT students are a very diverse group.
6. LGBT societies need to make a huge effort to be inclusive of all their members in order to be representative.
7. That the media encourages negative body images by only applauding the "body beautiful" in advertising, marketing, opinion, gossip pages and more
8. The LGBT media plays a massive role in promoting this 'homonormative' ideal, which transpires to our societies negatively influencing our LGBT students.
9. The LGBT media often presents us with 'role models' and failure to adhere to such stereotypes stigmatises and alienates LGBT people from LGBT communities, scenes and societies.
10. That the media stereotypes our community by assigning only certain (sometimes offensive) images and characteristics onto LGBT people.
11. That a Stonewall report (Tuned Out) conducted over 168 peak-time hours of BBC One and BBC Two television showed just 6 minutes (0.06%) of realistic and positive portrayal of lesbian and gay people.
12. That there is even less realistic and positive portrayal of Bi-Sexual people.
13. That portrayal of trans people, if any, is generally defamatory and inaccurate.

Conference further believed:

1. That most LGBT people don't fit into the narrow stereotypes the media assigns for us.
2. That effects of body fascism are excessive dieting, eating disorders, depression, self-harm and in the worst cases, suicide.
3. 'Body Fascism' motions are often amazing in theory but have little practical application
4. The UMSU LGBT 'We're LGBT Too' campaign is an exciting campaign to banish stereotypes for an inclusive LGBT society and campaigns collective
5. The aforementioned 'We're LGBT Too' campaign is a visual campaign of a diverse group of LGBT students who define as LGBT yet break away from the stereotypes and norms presented to us in LGBT media.
6. The 'We're LGBT Too' campaign actively tackles the stereotypes present in the media and is a positive visual manifestation of the ideals of the Body Fascism motion.

Conference resolved:

1. To provide an online briefing on body fascism including what it is, how to combat it within the LGBT community and help for students suffering from the effects of body fascism
2. To promote a national 'We're LGBT Too' campaign, which tackles the stereotypes associated with being LGBT for inclusive societies, scenes, communities and campaigns, using the experience and ideas of the Manchester campaign.
3. To promote LGBT societies to all students in attempts to diversify their campaigns and groups and make them accessible and inclusive.
4. To provide a diversity training workshop at LGBT Activist Training Days to equip LGBT students with the knowledge and ideas to diversify their campaigns and societies and implement the 'We're LGBT Too' campaign in a positive way in their unions
5. To work in partnership with the other Liberations Campaigns on this issue.

Motion Heading: Anti Racism, Anti Fascism

Conference believed:

1. That the fascist BNP continue to stand candidates and make gains across the country.
2. That in areas where the BNP stand, the electorate receive campaign literature promoting the hatred and lies of the BNP.
3. That wherever the BNP are allowed a platform, racist and homophobic attacks increase.
4. That fascist parties seek the annihilation of entire sections of society, including the LGBT community, which can only be achieved through violence.
5. That under the Nazis, millions of Jewish and LGBT people were systematically murdered.
6. That NUS and many of its' Constituent Members choose to adopt the 'No Platform' policies for racists and fascists.
7. That racism and fascist ideals have no place in the NUS LGBT campaign.
8. That it is important for the LGBT campaign to continue to support the NUS No Platform Policy
9. No Platform has historically been used as a method of self defence against fascist organisations, not as a tool to silence those whose ideas we find reactionary or discriminatory. It is based on the principle that fascists use democratic means to undermine democracy- the logic of their views would result in the removal of all of these democratic rights
10. Extending No Platform to cover non-fascist groups dilutes both the clarity and efficacy of No Platform policy and leaves us open to allegations of infringing free speech.
11. Most major trade unions have No Platform policies for fascists only.

12. Individuals who are guilty of racism, sexism and homophobia can be barred from NUS LGBT events without the need to No Platform whole organisations.

Conference further believed:

1. That NUS has a long history of fighting all forms of discrimination and hatred.
2. That the 'No Platform' policy is an effective method of fighting racism and fascism.
3. That we can hurt racist and fascist political parties in the ballot box.
4. That to effectively combat racism and fascism the NUS LGBT campaign must engage with other movements.
5. NUS Black Students' Campaign have taken the lead in fighting membership to get involved in campaigning.
6. NUS Black Students' Conference always has a guest speaker from UAF and also organises LMHR gigs at their conference social.
7. Singling out conservative Muslim groups for No Platform in NUS sends out a message that certain sources of racism are more acceptable than others.
8. The Conservative Party continues to harbour Ann Winterton- infamous for her jokes about Pakistani and Chinese people, and Patrick Mercer MP- who justified the use of the term 'black bastard' as a 'normal part of army life'.

Conference resolved:

1. To reaffirm the NUS LGBT campaigns commitment to fighting racism and fascism and to actively defend our No Platform for racists and fascists whenever or wherever it comes under attack.
2. To fight the BNP and other racist and fascist organisations wherever they become active in the UK.
3. To create closer links with the NUS Black Students' Campaign and to affiliate Unite Against Fascism (UAF) and Love Music, Hate Racism (LMHR)
4. To work with such organisations to fight racism and fascism.
5. To invite a representative from LMHR/UAF to address next years' LGBT conference as a guest speaker.
6. To educate students on the impact that fascism would have on the lives of LGBT students.
7. To support our students in actively campaigning against the BNP and other racist and fascist organisations during elections.
8. To fight all forms of discrimination and ensure that NUS LGBT events remain a safe space for all.
9. To work closely with ARAF and the Black Students Campaign in the fight against racism
10. To implement a No Platform for Fascists only policy, and to campaign for this position Nationally- it is essential that the voice of LGBT students is at the forefront of debate about how to most effectively fight fascism.

Society & Citizenship Zone

Motion Number: 401

Motion Heading: Love without Borders: The fight goes on

Conference believed:

1. That this year NUS LGBT started work on Internationalism, and launched the Love without Borders campaign.
2. That several LGBT societies have run successful Love Without Borders campaigns and events this year.
3. That homosexuality is still punishable by death in six countries round the world.
4. Homophobia, biphobia and transphobia are still present worldwide.
5. That the International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO) takes place annually on May 17th.
6. That IDAHO is in existence because LGBT people still do not have equality, and we must not forget that in many countries LGBT people do not even have basic human rights.
7. That the NUS LGBT Campaign has not recognised or publicised IDAHO before.

Conference further believed:

1. That we live in a global community and therefore should use the privileges we have in this country to fight for the rights of others that are not so fortunate.
2. NUS LGBT has recently gained international links with other organisations, through IGLYO and ILGA, and we should be building on these.
3. That IDAHO is a perfect opportunity for LGBT Societies to run Love without Borders events and campaigns.
4. That showing solidarity with International LGBT groups and campaigning for International LGBT rights are of extreme importance, and IDAHO can integrate with this.

Conference resolved:

1. To encourage LGBT societies to work together locally for effective action.
2. To encourage LGBT societies to support International LGBT societies and show solidarity with them.
3. To work more closely with IGLYO and ILGA and develop new campaigning styles and strengthen our existing strategies using best practice models and new ideas.
4. To run a National Day of Action with mass media exposure, where LGBT societies across the country can work together, making the difference we need to see.
5. To work in partnership with the NUS International Students Campaign on the Love without Borders campaign.
6. To encourage LGBT Societies and LGBT Officers to run Love without Borders events and demonstrations in tandem with IDAHO.

7. To mandate the NUS LGBT Officers and NUS LGBT Committee to publicise IDAHO events in 2009 on officeronline, through regional networks and at NUS LGBT Conference 2009.
8. To mandate the NUS LGBT Committee to encourage, facilitate and support IDAHO events run by LGBT Societies.
9. To encourage LGBT Societies to contact International LGBT groups showing solidarity with them and campaigning on their issues.

Motion Number: 402
Motion Heading: Fighting for Asylum

Conference believed:

1. The asylum process in the UK and in many other European countries is inaccessible, and makes it extremely difficult for LGBT applicants to apply successfully for asylum on the grounds of homophobia or transphobia in their home country. Lesbian and gay applicants are asked to 'prove' their sexuality, which is usually impossible.
2. NUS LGBT is supporting the campaign of Mehdi Kazemi, an Iranian student who was refused asylum in the UK after his boyfriend was executed in Iran for being gay. He travelled to the Netherlands, which has a reputation of being more sympathetic to asylum applications from gay Iranians; however, because of EU rules, he can only apply for asylum in the first European country he entered - the UK. The court in the Netherlands has therefore determined that he must be deported back to Britain.
3. Mehdi Kazemi's boyfriend named him as someone who he had a relationship with, back in Iran. Since then, his boyfriend has been put to death for being gay. Mehdi Kazemi faces exactly the same punishment when he returns to Iran. He fears execution by stoning.
4. The UK is a nation which has abolished the death penalty under all circumstances, while there are still laws protecting the rights of LGBT residents in the UK to be passed, any decisions to reject the asylum applications of LGBT people to countries which have the death penalty for being LGBT are an outrage and insult to the LGBT community.
5. Pegah Emambakhsh is an Iranian asylum seeker who escaped from Iran after her lover was arrested, tortured and it is feared sentenced to death for conducting homosexual acts. Pegah's father was also arrested, tortured and interrogated about her whereabouts. The European Parliament resolution of 13 March 2008 on the case of the Iranian citizen Mehdi Kazemi includes reference to Pegah Emambakhsh and states that in Article 3 of the European Charter on Human Rights it .. "prohibits the removal, expulsion or extradition of persons to countries where there is a serious risk that they would be subjected to the death penalty, torture OR other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment". In Germany and the Netherlands there is a moratorium on all deportations of LGBT asylum seekers to Iran.
6. JoJo Yakob is a 19 year old Gay Asylum seeker living in Scotland, currently facing a deportation back to Syria That JoJo escaped Syria two years ago after surviving severe abuse at the hands of the Syrian police and prison guards, when he was arrested for distributing anti-government leaflets. Following his transfer from police interrogation, prison guards soon discovered that JoJo was homosexual. He then suffered horrific beatings, electric shock torture, and 'cold water' torture and was assaulted so badly that he fell into a coma.
7. That people cross national borders for a number of reasons- some seeking asylum from war, torture or oppression; others seeking work and/or a better standard of living as economic migrants.
8. That in recent years the tabloid press has stepped up racist attacks on immigrants which are fed by New Labour's draconian anti-immigration policies.
9. That immigration controls and anti-migrant sentiment both depend on and perpetuate sexist, homophobic ideologies. For example, lesbian asylum seekers are routinely asked to "prove" their sexuality by saying which L-Word character they fancy!
10. That immigration controls create a pool of highly vulnerable and easily exploited 'illegal' migrant labour.

Conference further believed:

1. Last year NUS LGBT supported the successful Florence and Michael Must Stay Campaign. Florence Moses has now been granted indefinite leave to remain in the UK, and will not be deported home to her abusers. The action used in the Florence and Michael Must Stay Campaign included letter-writing, demonstrations, talks, discussions, lobbying of MPs, and fundraising. NUS LGBT was involved in aspects of this action, and these actions were instrumental in demonstrating the support that Florence had from the LGBT community, and ultimately in securing the success of the campaign.
2. Mehdi Kazemi came to the UK to study English, and he intended to return home to Iran after completing his studies, but he is now unable to return home. His situation has changed significantly and the Government must take account of this. Sending him back to Iran would make us complicit in his death. We must never forget that students that we represent can come from a hugely different culture and situation from ourselves and we share an obligation to make sure that everyone is able to study and learn freely, without fear. some politicians show a staggering ignorance and a lack of respect for human rights such as Roger Helmer MEP, who said to campaigners that "the logic of your position is that all homosexuals from Iran and from other strict Islamic countries should be free to come to the UK and settle here. I am not sure that is practical politics. There are a lot of tragic situations around the world: we cannot take responsibility for all of them." Asylum application decisions like that of Mehdi Kazemi undermine any attempts by the government to encourage other nations to support LGBT rights.
3. In recent years due to negative publicity in the British media about refugees and asylum seekers coupled with increasing scepticism by the general public of the ability of the Home Office to function effectively for asylum applications by LGBT people from countries which prohibit non-heteronormative lifestyles are being unfairly rejected. Many asylum seekers (LGBT or not) are having their asylum applications rejected for the sake of political expediency, while the media vastly over-emphasises so-called 'bogus applications'.
4. A number of Members of the House of Lords wrote a letter calling for a moratorium on deportations of LGBT asylum seekers to Iran and now some Members of Parliament have also signed a letter asking for a moratorium. An Early Day

Motion is being prepared by Diane Abbot M.P. in the House of Commons on this issue. LGBT asylum seekers must not be returned to countries where they will face persecution, torture or even death.

5. After fleeing to Scotland, and being found in the possession of a fake Belgian passport, JoJo is now being held at a young offender's institution in Falkirk. He has now been served a deportation order, pending a final hearing in Glasgow on May 7th. That Homosexuality is illegal in Syria, but the government claims that there is no systematic persecution or 'special units' to deal with the 'problem'. They do however; admit that Homosexuality is looked upon by society as a disease. If JoJo is forced to return to Syria, he will most likely face further persecution, arrest and torture.
6. That detention centres, which effectively imprison migrants without trial, are disgusting and that women and LGBT residents are often the worst treated.

Conference resolved:

1. To campaign for LGBT asylum seekers from countries which execute, imprison or fine LGBT citizens for being who they are to have their sexual orientation or gender identity taken into account as an overwhelming mitigating factor in their asylum application.
2. To raise awareness of the plight of asylum seekers and utilise the status of LGBT asylum seekers from these countries to lobby the government to put additional pressure on these nations to legalise non-heteronormative lifestyles.
3. To write to Jacqui Smith MP, the Home Secretary, describing our belief that LGBT people that claim asylum must be allowed to stay in the UK if returning as open and proud LGBT people means that they face persecution and death. To write to Roger Helmer MEP describing our rejection of his ignorant and unprincipled response to campaigners for human rights.
4. For NUS LGBT Campaign to support Mehdi Kazemi's campaign for asylum here in the UK through actions similar to those successful actions used in the Florence and Michael Must Stay Campaign. To make contact with Mehdi Kazemi and show our solidarity and compassion for his cause.
5. To emphatically support calls for a moratorium on deportations of LGBT asylum seekers to Iran, and to campaign to get as many MPs signed up to the EDM as possible. To lobby the Government to explicitly state that homophobic and transphobic persecution are legitimate grounds for granting asylum and that all Asylum and Immigration staff should receive training in sexual orientation/identity issues in the same way as they receive training about gender and race.
6. To oppose the deportation of JoJo Yakob. To write to the Home Office, demanding that they reconsider JoJo's case, as well as demanding proper and just treatment of LGBT asylum seekers in the UK.
7. To organise a picket of SERCO headquarters (the private company who run Yarl's Wood) to protest at conditions and in solidarity with all migrants and against borders

Motion Heading: Integration Not Separation; Equal Marriage

Conference believed:

1. Civil partnerships are the government's approach to giving comparable rights to same sex couples as those enjoyed by married heterosexual couples.
2. Civil partnerships give equal treatment in a wide range of issues including; tax, duty to provide reasonable maintenance for your civil partner and any children of the family, ability to apply for parental responsibility for your civil partner's child, access to fatal accidents compensation, and protection from domestic violence.
3. Civil partnerships are a huge step forward in the movement for the liberation of LGBT couples.
4. That by not granting civil marriage to same-sex couples the government is actively discriminating against the LGBT community.
5. That 'heterosexual' couples are not granted civil partnership by the government. This is a form of heterophobia.
6. That by having separate systems for civil unions, the government is effectively portraying same-sex relationships as the 'other' or 'alternative' choice.
7. The separation of same-sex couples by civil partnerships adds to the stigmatization of the LGBT community.
8. Civil partnerships are overtly distinct from marriage as they are exclusively for same-sex couples, just as civil marriages are exclusively for heterosexual couples.
9. Civil partnerships are also exclusively non religious and the government's decision to implement Civil Partnerships rather than open up marriage to same sex couples is a result of the religious right lobbying on this issue.
10. Same sex marriages overseas are only recognised as civil partnerships here in the UK, whilst heterosexual marriage is recognised worldwide.
11. Civil partnerships are not recognised as sexual relationships¹ whilst the same clause is not present in the Civil Partnership Act, and adultery is not a ground for dissolution of a Civil Partnership, whilst it is a ground for divorce from marriage.
12. The gender dichotomy is further emphasized by civil partnerships as only same sex couples can have a civil partnership, whilst only opposite sex couples can have civil marriages. The civil partnership / marriage system is thus transphobic because it focuses on gender.

Conference further believed:

1. That by separating civil partnership from civil marriage, the government is effectively 'outing' LGBT people in a way that many people may find uncomfortable. (i.e. by forcing people to disclose their relationship status in legal situations) This could lead to people being placed in a situation of being discriminated against.
2. Celia Kitzinger and Sue Wilkinson tried to get their Canadian marriage recognised as a marriage in the UK rather than a Civil Partnership. Their campaign has now fallen We are under constant attack and we need to be pro-active in demanding our rights for our partnerships to be recognised in precisely the same way as opposite sex couples.
3. That not enough focus is being placed upon the inequalities of separate civil union systems by LGBT campaigners.
4. The organisation Stonewall does not back campaigns for equal marriage due to their role in engineering them.
5. There is no national equal marriage campaign for us to be pro-active in.

6. The UMSU LGBT 'Integration not Separation' Equal Marriage campaign has received national acclaim.

Conference resolved:

1. To campaign actively for the provision of civil marriages for same – sex couples.
2. To support campaigns for the provision of civil partnerships for 'heterosexual' couples.
3. To support the UMSU LGBT 'Integration not Separation' campaign and roll it out across the country.
4. To work with other LGBT organisations to create a coalition of organisations organising around this issue and mandate this coalition to organise a national demonstration so we are listened to.
5. To assist in educating people about the differences and inequalities between civil partnerships and civil marriages.
6. To provide information and training for LGBT societies around the country to inform them of the inequality of civil partnerships.
7. To actively lobby the government to change civil partnerships and civil marriage so they are open to everyone regardless of gender.
8. To lobby the Minister for Equality Harriet Harman and Barbara Follet for equal marriage.

Motion Heading: Good goods: Servicing services

Conference believes:

1. That The Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) 2007 forbids the provision of goods and services from being discriminatorily given on the basis of sexual orientation.
2. That The Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and Human Rights Act 1998 forbid the provision of goods and services from being discriminatorily given on the basis of sex.
3. That The Sex Discrimination (Gender Reassignment) Regulation 1999 forbids the provision of goods and services from being discriminatorily given on the basis of intended, current or past gender reassignment surgery.
4. That there are few laws explicitly relating to the provision of goods and services to those with trans identities that are not actively undergoing gender reassignment surgery.
5. That the aforementioned laws are not universally observed or upheld by some companies.
6. That the NUS LGBT Campaign seeks to ensure the maintenance and furthering of the welfare of all LGBT students.

Conference further believes:

1. That all people, regardless of sex, gender or sexual orientation should be treated with equality and respect.
2. That any discrimination given on these grounds is both largely illegal and unacceptable.
3. That some venues that pro-actively advertise themselves as 'gay' establishments operate door policies that revolve around stereotypes of what gay men and women look and act like.
4. That we need to ensure that 'gay' establishments are able to maintain a safe secure environment for all patrons.
5. We have the right to live in a heterosexist free world.
6. That companies that persist in inobservance of the laws detailed in 'Conference Believes' should not be endorsed by the National Union of Students.

Conference resolves

1. To mandate the NUS to denounce companies that give goods and/or services based on grounds of sex, gender or sexual orientation.
2. To mandate the NUS to avoid the use of the goods and/or services provided by such companies unless wholly unavoidable.
3. To mandate the LGBT Campaign to actively support constituent member unions in their individual campaigns against such companies to organise further action on a regional or national basis should dialogue prove ineffective.

Motion Heading: Don't attack Iran!

Conference believed:

1. George Bush continues to ratchet up pressure for a military attack on Iran, threatening Iran with what he has named "World War Three" and instructing his Joint Chiefs of Staff to draw up plans for attack.
2. Gordon Brown has been quick to support the US administration and has refused to rule out 'the military option', sending British troops to Iraq's border with Iran.
3. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) continues to assert that "there is absolutely no evidence of a nuclear weaponisation programme in Iran", whilst Foreign Secretary David Miliband admitted in a recent Financial Times interview that there is no evidence of Iranian involvement in the violence and instability in Iraq.
4. Aside from the claims of nuclear weaponisation and involvement in Iraq, justification for an attack on Iran continues to take the form of talk about the oppressive nature of the Iranian regime, with particular regard to its violations of the rights of women and LGBT people.
5. We must not excuse abuses of universal human rights just because some reactionary right-wings seek to hijack them for their own limited ends.

Conference further believed:

1. At present in Iran there exist many grassroots, progressive movements fighting for LGBT rights.
2. The threat alone of a US attack on Iran is already suffocating many of Iran's progressive movements, by allowing the Iranian regime to clamp down on civil liberties and the right of assembly in the name of national security and counter-imperialism.

3. State sanctioned homophobia in Iran must be unconditionally condemned and solidarity made with those suffering from homophobia under the Iranian regime.
4. War is indiscriminate in maiming and killing LGBT people, women, or anyone else.
5. We must learn the lesson of Iraq: the situation is incomparable to that of the death squads that have formed during the occupation of Iraq. However limited the gains progressive Iranian movements have made, they would be wiped out in a moment were the US/UK to invade Iran.
6. Talk of LGBT rights by those seeking to justify war is a cynical manipulation of hugely important issues in order to pursue massively destructive and brutal military adventures. When LGBT activists support war they make it easier for the Iranian regime to portray LGBT people as Western, non-Islamic etc.: which makes life far worse for LGBT people in Iran.
7. It is vital that the LGBT community in the UK does everything in its power to oppose cynical attempts to use LGBT rights as a justification for war, and stands at the forefront of campaigns against an attack on Iran.
8. It is vital that the LGBT community in the UK does everything in its power to oppose cynical attempts by certain political groups to appease the reactionary regime in Iran.

Conference resolved:

1. To reaffirm our commitment to the standpoint of "liberation not occupation", i.e. that conditions of war and occupation are the worst in which to fight for LGBT liberation.
2. To engage with the Stop the War movement, ensuring that LGBT people are at the forefront of campaigning against further military threats against Iran and supporting initiatives such as LGBT Stop the War meetings with the help of Out Against the War supporters in the Stop the War Coalition.
3. To stand in solidarity with LGBT Activists in Iran and support our members in their international solidarity campaigns.
4. To condemn all apologists for the Iranian Regime.
5. To focus on the love without borders campaign with regards to Iran.

Motion Heading: No Julie Bindle! Support LBT Women in the Women's Liberation Movement.

Conference believes:

1. Julie Bindel is a well-known feminist, with a history of involvement in numerous modern campaigns for women's rights and against violence directed at women. She often writes articles and columns for The Guardian.
2. Bindel was a guest speaker on a panel at London Reclaim The Night 2007. This was a women-only march followed by a mixed-gender rally, organised by the London Feminist Network to protest against violence directed at women. The NUS LGBT campaign supports and participates in the London Reclaim The Night march and rally.
3. Bindel is controversial in various feminist circles and with trans activists for her comments on trans people. Her Guardian articles have commented that "sex change surgery is modern-day aversion therapy treatment for homosexuals," described a trans woman as an "arrogant" "man in a dress" and suggests that trans men are confused butch lesbians: "...at least those women were women, and hadn't gone to gender reassignment clinics to have their breasts sliced off and a penis made out of their beer bellies". She also proposed the topic "Sex change surgery is unnecessary mutilation" for a Radio 4 debate.

Conference further believes:

1. That Bindel's views are not only highly offensive to transsexed women and men, but also invisibilises those transsexed individuals who choose not to have any medical intervention, and those trans people who identify outside of the gender binary.
2. That whilst the NUS LGBT campaign should engage with others to bring about positive change, it should not be seen to condone views that are offensive to LGBT people.

Conference resolves:

1. To reaffirm our solidarity with the women's liberation movement.
2. To work for the inclusion of all lesbian, bisexual and trans women within the women's liberation movement.
3. To continue our participation in women-only marches and demonstrations such as Reclaim The Night, where such events are inclusive of all lesbian, bisexual and trans women.
4. That when the NUS LGBT campaign is officially involved in women-only events, promotional material produced by the campaign will explicitly advertise that events in which the campaign is officially involved in are trans-inclusive.
5. To oppose the presence of any speaker who is offensive to lesbian, bisexual or trans women at any event in which the NUS LGBT campaign officially participates.

Education Zone

Motion Heading: Bringing It Back

Conference believed:

1. NUS LGBT is best placed to campaign on matters relating to education.
2. Last year the Bullying Sucks campaign caused many institutions to update their anti-bullying policy, but bullying remains prevalent on our campuses, in our residences and throughout our learning environments, but many institutions still don't have anti-bullying policies inclusive of homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying.

3. Anonymous marking is the first step in ensuring LGBT people do not suffer academically because of homophobia, biphobia or transphobia and NUS LGBT and the NUS Education zone have prepared a briefing on this issue.
4. There is still a lot of work to do: the curriculum of college and university courses does not reflect the reality, diversity and history of the LGBT community.
5. Some teachers and lecturers have prejudiced and discriminatory views towards LGBT people.
6. LGBT people deserve a learning environment where they can be out and safe.
7. That detailed, well-funded and publicised research on LGBT issues is desperately needed.
8. That Dr. Roisin Ryan Flood of the University of Essex was awarded £82,000 by the Economic & Social Research Council to study the experiences of LGBT Irish immigrants living in London.
9. That A Taxpayers' Alliance spokesman condemned this by saying: "It sounds like it's come straight out of a political correctness joke book. I'm lost for words."
10. The University, the Students' Union and the funding body have been supportive of Dr. Flood and her research.

Conference further believed:

1. The exclusion of LGBT realities from the curriculum prevents the true richness of learning being explored.
2. LGBT students are more likely to leave education earlier than other students due to bullying or harassment, or due to financial difficulties resulting from estrangement.
3. Strong LGBT societies have an important LGBT student welfare role, and are forces for change in further and higher education.
4. That LGBT people have specific welfare needs and these are often not catered for by university and college welfare services.
5. NUS LGBT needs a strategic approach to tackling the issues faced by LGBT students and that the focus of this strategy should be liberating the curriculum.
6. A scoping paper is currently being prepared looking at the feasibility and methodology of lobbying the Higher Education Academy to introduce an LGBT-inclusive curriculum.
7. That pervasive and persistent homophobia, transphobia & biphobia comes from many sources, but significantly from a lack of understanding.
8. That with detailed, well-funded and publicised research will come an increased awareness, and that such research should not be subject to attacks.
9. That many students choose LGBT or queer subjects for their own studies, including dissertations at an undergraduate or post-graduate level.
10. That such attacks could dissuade or alienate these students from undertaking these studies, and further dissuade senior researchers from studying LGBT issues

Conference resolved:

1. To mandate the LGBT Officers to run a 5-point Education campaign in 2008-9, encompassing:
 - Liberation of the curriculum: for an LGBT-inclusive curriculum
 - Anonymous marking
 - Increased and expanded welfare services for LGBT students
 - Stronger LGBT societies with more influence in their institution
 - Anti-bullying policies which are accessible and specifically cover homophobia, biphobia and transphobia.
2. To work with NUS Welfare, Further Education and Higher Education zones to deliver this campaign.
3. To work with other organisations such as UCU in delivering this campaign.
4. To condemn the Taxpayers' Alliance for their comments.
5. To support LGBT research & courses, and encourage others to undertake LGBT research.

Motion Title: Estrangement

Conference believed:

1. That the NUS LGBT Campaign, along with the NUS Education Campaign recently published the report, "Evaluating Estrangement: A report into the estrangement application process in higher education student finance".
2. That the report looked at estranged students (67% of which were LGBT) and their experiences of applying for financial support within the Higher Education sector.
3. The report showed key findings in the form of problem trends, and from this produced a series of recommendations.
4. The decision of LGBT students to "come out" to their parents has and still does sometimes result in estrangement.

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. To lobby for implementation of the report's recommendations, some of which include;
 - Better guidance for both applicants and decision-makers on estrangement.

- The funding bodies adopting best practice models such as; assuming the student is telling the truth from the outset, not asking for evidence from the parents of an estranged student without that student's consent, respecting the student's privacy and setting time limits on the processing of applications.
- That the process must be flexible enough that limited contact and attempts at reconciliation with parents can be allowed without automatically invalidating a student's status as estranged.
- That data collection on estrangement applications should be greatly improved.

Motion Heading: Equivalent & Lower Qualifications (ELQ) Cuts & Disadvantaged Groups

Conference believed:

1. Currently UK and EU students receive Funding from the Higher Education Council for England HEFCE for all approved courses. This funding goes directly to the institutions.
2. ELQ students are those who are studying a course, which is at an equivalent or lower level to a qualification that they already hold.
3. On 7/9/07 the Department of Universities, Innovation and skill (Dius) instructed HEFCE to stop funding ELQ students.
4. That the Governments cutting of £100m from the Equivalent or lower Qualifications fund disproportionately affects already disadvantaged groups from accessing education.
5. The ELQ funding cuts are based on the assumptions that one set of qualifications will last a lifetime and that people will never need retrain/reskill.
6. That barriers in the workplace mean that disadvantaged groups are already more likely to require additional qualifications to gain workplace recognition & promotion.
7. That this is demonstrated by the lack of diversity in high paid, high prestige jobs.
8. Reducing the ability for people to re-skill in order to pursue career and personal development undermines the Widening Participation Agenda, and this should be strongly opposed.
9. That alongside the NUS Campaign against these cuts, the Open University Students' Association has been running a high-profile campaign.

Conference further believed:

1. That workplace discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation still exists, and is deeply destructive to its victims.
2. Despite the Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations and the equality Act (Sexual Orientation/Gender Duty) regulations. LGBT people still face discrimination in education and the work place.
3. That everyone should have the opportunity to re-skill and engage in furthering their education, and that financial pressures remain a large barrier to this.
4. We need the option of retraining with an ELQ when we are forced out of jobs or courses due to discrimination. The numerous court cases exposing workplace court or never treated as LGBT cases.
5. LGBT people face more barriers to workplace recognition and promotion than our peers. We need twice the qualifications for half the pay, and thus we are disproportionately hit by the ELQ cuts.
6. Lesbian headed families are doubly hit by the gender pay gap. The ELQ cuts enforce the gender-Pay-Gap in many way e.g. research shows that the gender-pay-gap triples when women have children. 1 in 5 women have to change career, take a pay drop and retrain with an ELQ after having children, as their pre-children career was so parent-unfriendly.
7. Research shows that our choice of first qualification/career is heavily influenced by the perceived LGBT-friendliness of that qualification/career. We should celebrate career pathways that have been historically regarded as LGBT friendly and at the LGBT-friendliness and then change career and retrain with ELQ later on.
8. For some LGBT people coming out involves changing many aspects of our lives including return to study at an ELQ level.
9. All marginalised groups are disproportionately hit by the ELQ cuts e.g. BME graduates are diverse group, but overall more likely to regret their first-degree choice one year on than white graduates (75% of Black African origin and 67% Asian Origin graduates regret their first degree choice one year later). ELQ cuts lock students to their choice of degree. We should stand in solidarity with marginalised groups, and recognise that many of us face multiple interacting identities.

Conference resolved:

1. To overwhelming and unreservedly condemn these funding cuts.
2. To fight for support and assistance for all LGBT students, no matter at what point they are in their education.
3. Work closely with Birkbeck SU Open University Students Association, and other key partners to campaign and develop of strategy to oppose ELQ cuts.
4. To demand a fully public Equality Impact Assessment to examine the effects of the ELQ cuts on LGBT people, women, mature, BME and disabled students.
5. To write to the minister for Higher Education, and the Chief Executive of HEFCE, outline our distaste at their decision and to demand support for all students throughout their time in education.
6. To oppose and highlight the ELQs funding cuts.

Motion Heading: Becoming Visible: Making Change

Conference believed:

1. Information is gathered by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) on the gender, ethnicity and disability of students at Higher Education Institutions.
2. This data is delivered back to institutions anonymously to tell them how many students they have from different monitored groups.
3. No such information is gathered with regards to sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, so Higher Education institutions can not know how many students they have who are LGBT.

4. Third year students complete the National Student Survey (NSS), which asks questions regarding their experience at university.
5. This data is delivered back to institutions anonymously to help them identify areas of achievement and areas for improvement.
6. The monitoring information gathered by HESA and the data collected by NSS is cross-referenced by institutions to discover whether the student experience varies for students from different monitored groups.

Conference further believed:

1. Visibility is one of the biggest problems facing LGBT liberation – there exists a vicious circle between LGBT realities not being visible, and therefore society not changing in order to fit LGBT realities. Evidence of LGBT realities is necessary push for this change.
2. Whilst a lot of anecdotal evidence exists that suggests that Higher Education institutions fail their LGBT students, there is very little statistical evidence of this.
3. In order to make a strong case for change, statistical and institution-specific evidence is needed, and the best way to do this is for HESA to gather this data alongside the data of other monitored groups.
4. HESA and NSS take the anonymity of students completing their surveys extremely seriously, and have procedures and practices in place to ensure this anonymity.

Conference resolved:

1. To support the principle of monitoring sexual orientation and gender identity, in order to provide evidence to create change.
2. To work closely with HESA and the Equality Challenge Unit to develop methodology of gathering this information which is completely anonymous and confidential.
3. To work closely with HESA, using best practice models, in order to structure these questions to gain answers which best reflect reality.
4. To lobby for the statistics gathered by NSS and HESA to be made public so that students can use these to lobby their institutions for change.

Motion Heading: Homophobia is not Gay

Conference believes

1. That Liberal Youth are running a campaign to tackle homophobic bullying in schools.
2. That students and LGBT groups are being encouraged to support the campaign at LGBT stalls and bar crawls and by wearing badges.
3. The campaign is called homophobia is gay.

Conference further believes

1. That any attempt to deal with the issue of homophobic bullying in schools should be welcomed by the campaign.
2. That this campaign has policy against the use of the word 'gay' as an alternative to the word bad or rubbish, which came about after Chris Moyles began using it on his Radio Show.
3. The Stonewall statement on this issue which said "while it is true that since the 1990s the word 'gay' has become a youth-speak synonym for stupid ... when used other than to accurately describe homosexual men and women – it is cruel and derogatory."
4. John Quinn director of children's charity beatbullying, says: "Using the word gay as a derogatory word further propagates the idea that being gay is bad thing."
5. That Human Rights Campaigner Peter Tatchell described this campaign as having a confusing message.
6. That further use of the word gay to mean bad further integrates it as an acceptable term, which could serve to counter the overall aims of a campaign against homophobia.
7. That a report by the Association of Teachers & Lecturers (AUT) found that 'gay' meaning 'lame' has become the insult of choice in British playgrounds.

Conference resolves

1. For the NUS LGBT Officer to communicate with Liberal Youth praising the campaign's overall aims to combat homophobia bullying in schools, but to recommend that they reconsider their slogan.
2. To continue to challenge the use of the word gay as a derogatory term, satirical or otherwise.

Motion Heading: Bullying still sucks

Conference believed:

1. That policy was passed at the last LGBT Campaign Summer Conference to work with the Welfare and Student Rights and Disabled Students Campaign on the issue of homophobic and transphobic bullying in FE and HE.
2. This campaign provided real statistics about the reality of homophobic bullying in Further and Higher education.
3. That work has already been undertaken on campuses to lobby college and university vice-chancellors to devise anti-bullying policies at their institutions.
4. That this year the LGBT campaign has made significant steps in tackling homophobic and transphobic bullying in FE and HE.

5. The LGBT Officers have rolled out toolkits and campaign materials aimed at resourcing LGBT Officers and LGBT groups and societies to lobby their vice-chancellors to bring about change and progress at their universities and colleges.
6. That biphobic bullying is a serious and growing problem and efforts to combat it need to be included in the 'bullying sucks' campaign.

Conference further believed:

1. That the campaign must be a long term one, and this year we must focus its work,
2. making it more accessible and flexible in order to be used in different circumstances and situations.
3. That Beat Bullying is making a bid for funding from the Department of Universities, Innovation and Skills to continue its work. If granted, a significant proportion of this money will be allocated to a mentoring scheme in universities and colleges, run by students for students.
4. That bullying often occurs in halls of residence in Higher Education and Further Education, with 30% of students completing the bullying survey citing that they had been bullied in a residential context.
5. That there are still colleges and universities across the FE and HE sectors without anti-bullying policies that specifically deal with homophobic and transphobic bullying.

Conference resolved:

1. To continue and focus the work of the Bullying Sucks campaign in 2008-09
2. To continue to raise awareness about the silent issue of bullying in Further and Higher Education.
3. To continue to make the toolkits and campaign materials available for order online.
4. For our campaign to work with the welfare zone to lobby the DIUS and the DCSF, calling for a national review of anti-bullying policies in both HE and FE, making sure that homophobic and transphobic bullying is recognised and challenged.
5. To look into ways at working with the AUT with regards to the issue of teachers being bullied in FE and HE so that we can help support these victims too.
6. To update materials for the 'bullying sucks' campaign to include fighting against biphobia so that it is a campaign against all forms of LGBT discrimination, not just homophobia and transphobia
7. To bring the work of the campaign down to a local level, working with students on the ground to implement their anti-bullying policies and lobby their institutions to take homophobia and trans-phobia seriously.
8. To stabilise links with the Education and other Liberation Campaigns such as the Black Students and International Students (as well as Welfare and Student Rights and the Disabled Students) on this issue, thus making this campaign even stronger.
9. To initiate a 'Homophobia in Halls' project with the welfare zone and to secure funding for this project from Unipol, the student housing organisation.

Motion Heading: For Equal Access: Against Means Testing.

Conference believed:

1. At last year's LGBT conference the opponents of universal grants claimed that "Universal grants for all would cost over £35 BILLION POUNDS PER YEAR – THIS IS MORE THAN THE COST OF THE ENTIRE SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM!"
2. The above claim is a complete fabrication. There are currently 2,310,000 students studying in UK universities. The cost of a universal grant for every one of these students of £6,000 per year (on top of inflation-linked student loans) would be £13,860,000,000 a year (£13.86bn).
3. This amounts to around one eighth of the cost to the taxpayer of the £110bn given to bail out the Northern Rock bank.

Conference further believed:

1. Higher Education has transformed the lives of huge numbers of LGBT people, often giving them a chance to meet other LGBT people and come out about their sexuality in a setting far more appealing than the places in which they have been brought up.
2. One in four LGBT people between the ages of 18-25 are at some stage emotionally and financially estranged from their parents, an astronomically higher ratio than the national average. LGBT students thus continue to be discriminated against by the current means-testing system of education funding.
3. Many LGBT students who receive no financial support from their parents for their education as a result of being open about their sexuality are nevertheless unable to seek additional funding through claiming estrangement.
4. Even those students who might at present be eligible to receive funding through claiming estrangement are put off doing so as a result of LGBT oppression within society.
5. Students should not have to disclose their reasons for estrangement (especially in the event of LGBT oppression) when applying for student financial support.
6. Forcing post-18 students to be financially dependent on their parents furthermore means that many LGBT students who do receive financial support from their parents face an added financial pressure to hide their sexuality. Such pressure flies in the face of any move toward a more progressive and equal society.
7. LGBT students may be delayed from beginning their university education because of the length and distress of the process of proving estrangement, or may not begin at all because of the costs involved. In addition, students who become estranged during the academic year cannot reapply for further funding to reflect their change in circumstance.
8. The only way of overcoming these problems is the reinstatement of universal grants, funded through progressive taxation and a re-prioritisation of government resources.
9. Arguing against means-testing does not let the rich 'off the hook' any more than arguing against means-tested access to healthcare: wealthy parents should not only have to pay for their own son's/daughter's education, but should fund the education system for society as a whole.

Conference resolved:

1. To campaign for non-means tested, universal grants for all students, highlighting why
2. this is particularly important for LGBT access to Higher Education.
3. To campaign for universal grants as part of a campaign for free education for all, and to do everything possible to fight for this position in the NUS as a whole, ensuring that the needs of LGBT students are at the forefront of national debate.

**NUS LGBT Campaign Conference 2009
Policy Passed**

Zone 100: Steering Committee & Reform Zone

101 Technical Amendments to the Standing Orders

Conference Believed:

1. Previous drafting errors need to be amended in the Standing Orders to bring our rules into line with our practices.
2. These amendments, which are tabled by the Steering Committee, will not alter our current practices, simply keeps our rules up-to-date.

Conference Resolved:

1. To amend Standing Order 3.3(c) adding new paragraph "Observers appointed by Constituent Members and Area Organisations"
2. To delete Standing Order 3.3(c)(vi)
3. To amend Standing Order 3.3(d) adding new paragraph "Members of the Steering Committee, who may speak on matters related to the procedures and rules of the Conference, Conference administration, proposed amendments to the Standing Orders and any other matter placed up them by the Standing Orders or policy resolution of Conference, or by duties delegated to them."
4. To amend Standing Order 3.12 such that "m" becomes "xiii" in the Parts Procedure section and a new clause is inserted as follows "Parts – procedural motion (xiii) – shall be moved, provided there are twenty-five delegates wishing to hear the case for the parts immediately before the Summation speech on a motion or amendment only."
5. To add to Standing Order 3.12 "Quorum for all full sessions of the Conference shall be 20% of registered delegates. There shall be no quorum in caucuses or when the Conference is not in full session."
6. To amend Standing Order 4.3(ii) such that it reads "...shall elect a Lesbian, Bisexual or Trans Woman..."

102 Updates to Standing Orders after Approval of new NUS Constitution

Conference Believed:

1. Following the ratification of the new NUS Constitution and the approval of the Transitional Arrangements at the National Extraordinary Conference in January 2009, the LGBT Campaign needs to update its Standing Orders to reflect any changes.
2. The Steering Committee tables this motion to simply reflect the new NUS Constitution, and is not proposing any changes outside of simply updating our rules to comply with the new NUS Constitution.
3. The new NUS Constitution comes into effect on 1 July 2009, and that is when these changes should be timed to come into effect, not at the close of this Conference.

Conference Resolved:

1. To amend Standing Order 2 such that "positive discrimination" is replaced with "positive action" wherever it occurs.
2. To amend Standing Order 2 such that "National Secretary" is replaced with "LGBT Officers or nominee of the National President, as appropriate".
3. Replace "Elections Committee" with "Chief Returning Officer, or appointed agent" throughout the Standing Orders.
4. Replace "National Executive Committee" with "National Executive Council" throughout the Standing Orders.
5. To replace Standing Order 3.3(d)(ii) with "Members of the Board of Trustees or the Democratic Procedures Committee, who may speak on matters relating to their work."
6. Delete Standing Order 4.2
7. These amendments shall come into force on 1 July 2009.

103 LGBT Campaign Reform Paving Motion

Conference Believed:

1. Policy passed by Conference 2008 instructed the Committee to create a Reform Committee and to elect members to it to carry out a reform process, bringing at least two options back to Conference 2009 for discussion.
2. Steering Committee was asked to submit this motion as the Committee and the Reform Committee cannot do so under Standing Orders.
3. That several areas of public policy are devolved to the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly.
4. In particular, the Scottish Parliament can legislate on crime law, and both parliaments can legislate on health for their jurisdictions.

Conference Further Believed:

1. The national LGBT committee extensively discussed the reform process at NUS LGBT committee training 2008

2. The result of this discussion was a strategy for the reform process that was unanimously approved at NUS LGBT committee
3. This strategy included providing more than 2 options for the new standing orders by using a "basket" system to discuss multiple options within each section of the new standing orders
4. The national LGBT committee elected a 9 person Reform Committee to carry out a reform process; a mixture of Officers, committee members and LGBT students
5. This committee led face-to-face consultation at the 6 Activist Training Days back in November, hearing the views of over 70 LGBT students
6. The committee also produced an online consultation survey that received the views and opinions of over 170 LGBT students
7. Through this consultation the Reform Committee produced the various standing orders options that form the resolves of this motion.
8. As a result, the laws and issues affecting those students in Scotland and Wales can be different from those in England.
9. That our Activist Training Days, when training activists from the Nations, need to take account of this.
10. That previously, the same Activist Training Days were run in the regions and in the nations.
11. The Reform process did not ask respondents about a mission statement, not did it invite suggestions for such a mission statement.
12. The mission statement proposed has not been produced in consultation with the membership.
13. A mission statement would be central to the campaign, and as such should be produced by the membership of the campaign.

Conference Resolved:

1. Any changes to the National Officers shall not take effect until 1 July 2010, after they have been elected by the LGBT Conference 2010.
2. Changes to the membership of the National Committee shall take effect on 1 July 2009, with election occurring as determined by the Elections Committee at this Conference.
3. Changes to the membership of the Steering Committee shall take effect immediately, with election into the new rules occurring as determined by the Elections Committee.
4. The Elections Committee has full discretion at determining the transitional electoral matters, and the NEC, Steering Committee and National Committee may not over-rule. All elections shall be treated as if the candidates were entering the first term of office for all posts.
5. Mandate the Rules Revision Committee and its successor (the Democratic Procedures Committee) in the new NUS Constitution to bring forward any NUS constitutional changes as required following the amendments approved to our own Standing Orders in this series of Motions in this Reform Debate (this will only be required if we change the name of the Campaign or in some way make policy which would affect the new NUS Constitution which comes into effect on 1 July 2009).
6. Steering Committee to ensure that the amended Standing Orders are fully updated and published to the membership by 1 July 2009, including applying Plain English and including reformatting to ensure ease of reference.
7. To consult the membership for suggestions of possible mission statements.
8. To bring at least two mission statements to Conference 2010 for the membership of the campaign to choose which will become the Campaign's mission statement.

Conference Further Resolved to amend the Standing Orders as follows:

Add to Standing Order 1: Mission Statement for Adoption

9. To adopt "The Campaign is the national student movement from the liberation of LGBT people. We fight for the rights of LGBT students, support LGBT students in universities and colleges, and provide a national voice on LGBT issues, both within NUS and wider society." and that 'LGBT' may change subject to agreement of the Campaign Name's acronym.

Activist Training Days (a new Standing Order will be created)

10. The Campaign shall host and run Activist Training Days, in line with policy determined by the Conference. Any Individual Member of NUS may attend an ATD, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.
11. Activist Training Days shall occur in the first semester of each academic year.
12. The National Committee shall determine a manner of appointment for Regional Assistants at ATD, who shall assist the National Committee members that have been assigned to that Region.
13. Add to the Standing Orders: Where the Activist Training Days are run by the national campaign, but held in the Nations, the LGBT Campaign committees of the Nations shall be involved in the planning and running of the training days in the Nations

In Standing Order 5: The Steering Committee

14. Elected members to the Steering Committee shall serve two-year terms. Elections shall be staggered to promote continuity.
15. Members of the Steering Committee shall only serve two terms on the Steering Committee, and whilst they are a member of the Steering Committee shall not be eligible for election to the National Committee or as a delegate/observer of the Conference.

16. Officers are not eligible for election to the Steering Committee.

104 Membership and Name of the LGBT Campaign

Conference Resolved to amend the Standing Orders as follows:

Changes to Standing Order 2:

1. Individual Members who self-identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and/or Trans, or who self-define as experiencing homophobia, biphobia and/or transphobia for not fitting in to heteronormative society.
2. To ADD: "Undecided/Questioning" to CR 1 of Motion 104.
3. To ADD: "Queer" to CR 1 of Motion 104.
4. That "Queer" does not include heterosexual, non-trans people.

105 Conference Arrangements and Eligibility to Attend Conference

Conference Believed:

1. NUS LGBT is inclusive of Trans people and works to increase awareness of trans issues.
2. The term "female" denotes sex, while the term "woman" describes a gender identity.
3. Not all women are female and not all female people define as women.
4. That diversity, inclusion and solid representation of our students should be demonstrated at both summer Conference and at a grassroots level;
5. That in the past, the campaign has suffered by Summer Conference not being representative of who we are as LGBT students, such as with a disproportionate number of self-defining men to self-defining women on Conference floor;
6. That with the policy change to assign two of the Conference delegate places as women's places and two as open places for each institution, the participation of self-defining women has greatly increased and Conference floor as been much more representative of LGBT students;
7. That this change of policy was a great success and a real achievement towards creating a representative and inclusive campaign;
8. That it is now time to turn our attention to the disproportionate number of ethnic minority students who attend Conference;
9. That to be a representative campaign, we must not only give a voice to ethnic minority students, but must actively encourage their participation in the same way we have done for other groups in the past;
10. That considering the success of the above mentioned policy, that a similar approach should be taken to ensure that future Conferences are as diverse as we the students are;
11. That a disproportionately low participation of ethnic minority students is also demonstrated at regional events, activist training days and within HE and FE LGBT organisations themselves;
12. That resources, such as workshops and literature on the subject of the needs of ethnic minority students are few and far between.
13. That to create a more inclusive and representative campaign, diversity must be encouraged from a grass roots level upwards.

Conference Further Believed:

1. Many students understand "open" delegation places to be reserved for non-women, sometimes resulting in fewer women gaining places on delegations than if they also ran for open places.
2. That ethnic minority LGBT students face discrimination from both their own ethnic communities and from the LGBT community.

Conference Resolved:

1. To use the terms "woman/women" and not "female" in all discussions of gender balancing and reserved places.
2. To be mindful of the appropriate use of the terms "woman/women" and "female" in all debates and literature.
3. To include in information about gender balancing a discussion of the use of these terms, including a clarification that open places are available to any delegate.
4. To create (where not already in existence) and make widely available, resources for FE and HE organisations to be more inclusive of ethnic minority students in their campaigns.
5. To run workshops at activist training days that focus on increasing the participation of ethnic minority students and meeting their needs.
6. To actively seek feedback from ethnic minority LGBT students on their needs and experiences.
7. To mandate the Black Students Representative to work in partnership with the Black Students Campaign to promote inclusion of ethnic minority LGBT students in both the Black and LGBT Campaigns.
8. To find and work with other organisations currently supporting the needs of ethnic minority LGBT communities.
9. To hold Black LGBT events and days during LGBT History Month.

Conference Further Resolved to amend the Standing Orders as follows:

Amend Standing Order 3:

Eligibility to Attend Conference

1. Those eligible to come to Conference as either a voting Delegate or an Observer are:
2. Members of the Campaign (as agreed in Motion 104)

Delegation Size

3. A Constituent Member shall be allocated a basic delegate entitlement of four (4) to six (6) delegates, which shall be based on student numbers at that Constituent Member, using the NUS National Conference formula appropriately scaled.
4. Half of the basic delegate entitlement of a Constituent Member shall be delegate places reserved for Women. For the avoidance of doubt, only whole integers and not fractions shall be reserved for Women (e.g. a delegation of 5 would require 2 reserved for Women, not 3).

Trans and Black Places

5. Constituent Members with four (4) to six (6) as a basic delegate entitlement shall be allowed an extra delegate place, in addition to their basic delegate entitlement, which shall be solely reserved for Trans delegates.
6. Constituent Members with four (4) to six (6) as a basic delegate entitlement shall be allowed an extra delegate place, in addition to their basic delegate entitlement, which shall be solely reserved for Black delegates.

Selecting a Delegation

7. Delegates shall be selected by each Constituent Member by an election where only Members of the Campaign at that Constituent Member may vote as agreed in Motion 104.

108 Caucuses and Make-up of the National Committee

Conference Resolved to amend the Standing Orders:

1. To ADD: a second place on the Committee for Further Education
2. To ADD: a second place on the Committee for Trans

Zone 300: Student Rights & Welfare Zone

301 A National Campaign for All LGBT Students

Conference Believed:

1. That our Campaign has an unfortunate history of not always recognising the full diversity of our movement. LGBT people are Black, disabled, women, Queer, part-time students, mature, international religious and postgraduate as well
2. That the causes of sexism, homophobia, biphobia and transphobia are bound together, and made worse by the heterocentric society in which we live
3. That accessibility is not just a disabled students' issue – it enables all students to participate fully
4. That recent research carried out by the Equality Challenge Unit into the experiences of LGBT staff and students in Higher Education showed that a lot of students at institutions with a religious ethos believe that they cannot come out
5. That this research also highlighted some tensions between faith and sexuality
6. That LGBT faith organisations such as Imaan (the Muslim LGBT organisation) and BaGeLs (the Jewish LGBT organisation) do great work in promoting community cohesion and acting as a welfare service for students of faith.
7. That it is crucial to involve LGBT students in the fight against racism, and Black students in the fight against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia.
8. The British National Party stand for an "all-white Britain", and frequently peddle homophobic and sexist filth as well.
9. That last year the Campaign affiliated to Unite Against Fascism

Conference further Believed:

1. That all the Liberation Campaigns will be stronger if we all work together
2. That this year's NUS LGBT Conference will see the launch of the first national Love Music Hate Homophobia gig, a fundraising event with LGBT performers and musicians, with all proceeds going to UAF
3. That the topic of faith and sexuality is not such a taboo subject that we cannot discuss it at all, and we must do more to promote healthy dialogue in this area.
4. That anti-fascist organisations like Unite Against Fascism do amazing work in not only combating the BNP, but also promoting multiculturalism and diversity

Conference resolved:

1. To work with the NUS Women's Campaign and continue to campaign against sexism and heterocentrism, the joint causes of the discrimination that LGBT people and women face in society.
2. To work with the NUS Disabled Students' Campaign in making all our campaigns and events accessible to all students, and working on areas of mutual interest (such as mental health)
3. To continue to push for all LGBT societies to become Trans-inclusive, and help students running trans-awareness campaigns and events
4. To support students and students' unions running Love Music Hate Homophobia events
5. To hold a "Faith and Sexuality" event in 2010 to address this taboo subject.
6. For the national LGBT committee to work out a strategy for increasing participation from mature, part-time, international and postgraduate LGBT students within the Campaign
7. To re-affirm our commitment to running an anti-racist LGBT Campaign, and to speak out against racism in wider society, and in the student movement.
8. To work with the NUS Black Students' Campaign in combating racism, and ensuring that more Black LGBT students get involved in both of our Campaigns.
9. To make LGBT students aware of the threat of the BNP.
10. To continue to work with UAF and other anti-fascist organisations fighting against the BNP.
11. To support students and students' unions organising anti-fascist networks.

302 Stop the BNP

Conference Believed:

1. That the British National Party is a fascist organisation that stands for an all white, all straight Britain
2. Mark Collett, former chairman of the Young BNP, described homosexuals as "*AIDS Monkeys*", "*bum bandits*" and "*faggots*" and said the idea of homosexuality was a "*sickening thought*".
3. Phil Edwards, BNP National Press Officer said that homosexuality led to '*moral turpitude and disease*,' and that it should be '*returned to the closet where it belongs*.'
4. That the BNP is a violent organisation with leading members being convicted of violent hate crimes and possession of explosives
5. That where the BNP are active, hate crimes rise.
6. That the BNP should have no place on our campuses, in our council chambers or on our streets.
7. That gaining a footing in the EU Parliament would give the Nazi BNP an opportunity to organise with other fascists and £250,000 in resources per MEP.
8. That this would boost their confidence and could herald a shift in strategy from electioneering to marching on the streets.
9. It is important to realise the particular nature of fascism, and not to confuse it with other ideologies, or groups, however much we may oppose their views.

10. No Platform has historically been used as a method of self defence against fascist organisations, not as a tool to silence those whose ideas we find reactionary or discriminatory. It is based on the principle that fascists use democratic means to undermine democracy- the logic of their views would result in the removal of all of these democratic rights
11. Extending No Platform to cover non-fascist groups dilutes both the clarity and efficacy of No Platform policy and leaves us open to allegations of infringing free speech.
12. Most major trade unions have No Platform policies for fascists only.
13. Individuals who are guilty of racism, sexism and homophobia can be barred from NUS LGBT events without the need to No Platform whole organisations.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That stopping the BNP getting elected should be a central plank of our anti-fascist work.
2. That the student vote could be part of stopping the BNP in their tracks.
3. That there is a very real danger of the BNP winning representation in the EU parliament this summer
4. That most people abhor the BNP and their prejudiced lies but history has shown that during times of economic downturn, support for fascism rises
5. That BNP successes would represent a direct threat to minority communities
6. That it is vital that these minorities work together and with their straight and white allies in a united fight against fascism
7. That NUS LGBT should play an active role in Unite Against Fascism and work closely with Love Music Hate Racism.
8. Singling out conservative Muslim groups for No Platform in NUS sends out a message that certain sources of racism are more acceptable than others.
9. The Conservative Party continues to harbour Ann Winterton- infamous for her jokes about Pakistani and Chinese people, and Patrick Mercer MP- who justified the use of the term 'black bastard' as a 'normal part of army life'.

Conference Resolved:

1. For the LGBT campaign to fully support the NUS's 'Get the Vote Out' campaign
2. To do all we can do encourage LGBT students to vote in the local and European elections in order to defeat the BNP at the ballot box.
3. To work closely with UAF and LMHR supporting initiatives and events and producing joint publicity helping to alert the LGBT student community to the BNP threat
4. To work with LMHR to organise more Love Music Hate Homophobia events
5. To support and publicise the Love Music Hate Racism carnival in Stoke.
6. To send representatives to events marking the 10th anniversary of the David Copeland Nail bombing in Soho which targeted the gay community and killed 3 people including a pregnant woman.
7. To reaffirm our opposition to the BNP and all they believe.
8. To work closely with Hope not Hate and Unite Against Fascism to combat the fascist threat in our society.
9. To fight all forms of discrimination and ensure that NUS LGBT events remain a safe space for all.
10. To work closely with ARAF and the Black Students Campaign in the fight against racism
11. To implement a No Platform for Fascists only policy, and to campaign for this position Nationally- it is essential that the voice of LGBT students is at the forefront of debate about how to most effectively fight fascism.

303 Trans and ID Cards

Conference Believed:

1. That the Identity Cards Act 2006 establishes a centralised system of databases called the National Identity Register, which will store an unprecedented 50 categories of personal information on each UK citizen and visiting nationals, including biometric data.
2. Each citizen will have to pay an estimated £30 for an ID card or £93 for a combined ID card/biometric passport.
3. The Act requires people to have their gender shown on the ID card.
4. According to a statement released by the Identity and Passport Service via a:gender, forthcoming secondary legislation will allow trans people to hold two ID Cards, but only if clinically diagnosed with a "need" to live in the non-birth gender part-time. Those living full-time in the non-birth gender may obtain an ID Card in the acquired gender and, optionally, a second card in the birth gender.
5. If a trans person holds two ID cards, only one will be valid for travel throughout Europe. Both must be paid for by the individual.
6. If a full GRC is obtained, the individual may hold only one ID Card in the acquired gender, but their birth gender will be recorded on the Register even if they never held an ID Card in that gender.
7. The German Personalausweis (ID card) does not list the gender of the holder.
8. That from November 25th 2008, non-EU students and those seeking a marriage visa have to submit their personal details, including biometric data, to a register imitating the National Identity Register.
9. From 2010 it may be impossible to open a student bank account or take out a student loan without an ID Card
10. That individuals could face a fine of £1,000 each time they fail to notify the National Identity Register of a change in circumstances, such as a change of address.
11. That the government has recently lost personal details of over half the UK population!

Conference Further Believed:

1. That the draft guidelines for the National Identity Register will be a massive infringement of transitioning individuals' right to privacy.
2. ID cards will make LGBT people, particularly trans people carrying two ID cards with conflicting details, more vulnerable to harassment.
3. Many trans people cannot obtain GRCs, for example those whose identity lies outside the boundaries of male or female, those who have lived in their acquired gender less than two years, and those who cannot apply because they want to remain married or in a civil partnership.
4. Only trans people medically diagnosed with a need to live part-time in the non-birth gender will be able to obtain two ID cards, further enslaving trans people to the medical professions.
5. It is illegal to disclose whether a person is in possession of a GRC without explicit permission.
6. At least 300,000 people will be authorised to check the National Identity Register, a massive security risk and infringement of the privacy of trans people with or without a GRC. Indeed the security has already been breached by council staff.
7. That the National Identity Register will be an expensive, insecure, ineffective and unjustifiable invasion of privacy.
8. That the government has proved that it cannot be trusted with our personal data.
9. The threat of financial insecurity should not be used to blackmail students into "voluntarily" applying for ID Cards.
10. LGBT students in general – and trans students in particular – will benefit from the scrapping of the ID scheme.
11. We should lobby to ensure that secondary legislation is as LGBT-friendly as possible if the scheme is introduced, but it is possible to also campaign against the introduction of the ID scheme at the same time.

Conference Resolved:

1. To publicly oppose those aspects of the National Identity Scheme proposals that impact students and LGBT people.
2. To raise public awareness of those aspects of the scheme that affect trans people.
3. To lobby the Government to change the proposals for the National Identity Scheme to make them less damaging to trans people.
4. To insist that measures are adopted to make it easier to change one's gender marker, or that the gender marker be removed altogether (as on German ID cards).
5. To openly oppose the ID scheme.
6. To affiliate to the No2ID campaign.
7. To support and organise student action against ID Cards and the National Identity Register.
8. To lobby universities and FE colleges not to require registration on the National Identity Register or similar databases for any student or staff member.

304 Trans Equality is Important

Conference Believed:

1. Trans people have historically suffered similar oppression to LGB people due to our existence challenging societies normative models of gender. However trans people suffer from specific difficulties that other minority groups often don't have to deal with
2. Transgender is often simply included when Equality policies are drawn up as a matter of course without considering the actual issues relating to trans people
3. There is general lack of understanding of transgender rights amongst students and staff at universities.
4. Transphobia is not been adequately prevented by the current Equality policies at Student Unions/guilds
5. Information is not made clear to perspective trans students of what their rights are prior to applying to a university
6. Transgender issues rarely get discussed by executive bodies at Student Unions/Guilds

Conference further Believed:

1. Rights in regards to Trans Students transitioning at university are more specific to those normally included within general student union equality policies.
2. Language protection in regards to gender specific language is often not included within general student union equality policies.
3. Even though Transgender is included within Student Union/Guild equality policies many staff, student representative officers and students have very little understanding of what exactly those rights entail
4. Student union equality policies are insufficient at preventing all Transphobia or Transphobic activities occurring within the Student Union/Guild remit, as shown by recent protest concerning the Manchester University student newspaper Student Direct and its publication of Transphobic content.
5. General equality policies do not encourage impact assessment on the trans community when other governance is been put in place. With Trans people often having limited visibility at some institutions this can lead to governance which adversely effects Trans people and isolates or excludes them from participation within student union/guild life.

Conference resolved:

1. That all Student Unions/Guilds develop a and implement a separate Trans equality policy
2. That the policy should include a code of practice for Transsexual or intersex students transitioning whilst at university
3. The policy should include people who self define as Trans or Queer
4. To promote staff and student representative officers training on trans issues
5. To Ensure that Student Unions stay a safe Space for Trans identified and LGB identified people
6. To encourage universities to implement their own separate Trans equality policy

Conference Believed:

1. The healthcare system consistently ignores, devalues and discriminates against the LGBT community.
2. Health provision in the UK often ignores specific LGBT health needs in heterosexist policies and training of healthcare staff.
3. Currently, medical schools are under no obligation to include training for medical students and junior doctors on sexual orientation and gender identity
4. A recent study by stonewall on lesbian and bisexual women's health indicated that over half of the women who responded had negative experiences in the healthcare sector.
5. That LGBT people face specific mental health issues which need to be addressed.
6. That many institutions in both HE and FE have campus medical practices and counselling services which provide for all students, including LGBT students.
7. That students' unions provide invaluable welfare support to students, including LGBT students.
8. That issues regarding sexual activity can be pertinent to LBT patients with regards to health issues other than sexual health.
9. That terms such as 'sexual intercourse' used in the medical profession are used to refer exclusively to heterosexual practices.
10. That the current age for cervical cancer screening in England is 25, while the age for cervical cancer screening in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is 20.
11. That the NUS LGBT's Healthcare Manifesto currently states that part of one of its 10 demands for improving healthcare for LGBT people includes a demand for "the offer of smear tests to all people with cervixes, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity."
12. That a number of organisations and individuals with expertise on the issue of cervical cancer, including the charity Jo's Trust and numerous individual doctors, have called for the age of screening in England to be lowered from 25 back to 20 years of age.
13. That the NUS LGBT Campaign must keep up the fight for accessible healthcare for LBT women.
14. The desire to have a baby is totally natural
15. For women the options are to have penetrative sex with a donor, to have IVF or to self-inseminate.
16. Many lesbians in previous decades put their sexuality to one side and partnered with a man for the purpose of having a baby, sometimes these unions were between a lesbian and a gay man, and for all intents were marriages on convenience to raise a family.
17. Self-insemination using donation apparatus, such as a turkey baster, is extremely poor in targeting semen effectively within the cervical foyer, though it is cheap, and with a willing donor is usually anonymous if needed.
18. Historically Trans people have suffered terribly in all aspects of healthcare in the UK
19. The NHS has been slow to keep up with new developments in culture and treatment when it comes to Trans patients.
20. There is still a culture problem in the NHS when it comes to dealing with Trans Patients
21. Most Transsexual patients suffer long drawn out battles to receive treatment they deserve access to.
22. The LGBT Healthcare Manifesto includes the demand to make the education of LGBT issues in healthcare compulsory for medical students, with lobbying the General Medical Council (GMC) part of the action plan.
23. This is likely to take considerable time, especially with new policy taking time to implement and become common practice.
24. The NUS LGBT Campaign can help bring about change within medical and healthcare education in the meantime, by working with medical and healthcare students, to provide organic solutions to some of the current problems in the healthcare system.
25. Domestic Violence and violence against women is still rife in society and more must be done to combat it.
26. Research suggests that 1 in 4 LGBT people suffer domestic abuse at some point in their lives- the same rate as in heterosexual relationships.
27. That there is a myth that partners in same-sex relationships, particularly women, can never hurt one another.
28. That domestic abuse can take many forms: physical, emotional, financial and sexual and can have many different effects on both physical and mental health.
29. That domestic abuse doesn't only happen within romantic or sexual relationships, it can happen within friendships and family settings too, and LGBT people are particularly vulnerable to this type of abuse.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That NUS LGBT have launched a healthcare manifesto with Terrance Higgins Trust, Stonewall and Unison, detailing 10 demands for a more LGBT inclusive healthcare system
2. These demands include mandatory training for junior doctors on LGBT issues, better sexual health information for LGBT women, and more funding for HIV prevention to match the rising rate of diagnoses in gay and bisexual men.
3. That terms such as 'sexual intercourse' are used in a heterosexist way.
4. That the use of such terms is often not synonymous with the information that is being asked of the patient.
5. That at the time of writing, the campaign is lobbying the general medical council to ensure that LGBT issues are part of new curriculum guidelines for undergraduate medical education.
6. That working with other organisations with expertise in the healthcare system are the key to success in this area of work
7. That often LGBT people do not register with their campus healthcare services, use campus counsellors or their union welfare services for fear of discrimination.
8. That the answer is not to give everyone the same, it is to address LGBT specific health needs.
9. That we need more evidence of access to healthcare issues on campuses in order to better campaign on this issue.

10. That the use of these terms can be confusing for LBT patients; making them feel as though they must divulge their sexual orientation when it is not relevant.
11. That LBT patients should have access to sensitive and inclusive health care.
12. That all people with cervixes should be entitled to access free cervical cancer screening, regardless of which area of the UK they live in.
13. That many LBT women have been turned away because they have been deemed to have been sexually inactive though not having sex with men.
14. There are horrendously unethical companies available such as Man Not Included, run by straight men, who deliver fresh semen to lesbians via moped.
15. This donation has not been screened for viruses.
16. Lesbians should not have to suffer with the dregs of patriarchal society determining how they should inseminate themselves.
17. The NHS has continued to fight to limit access to healthcare services for Trans patients even since the courts ordered them to provide a service.
18. Refusal to see Trans patients as anything other than under the mental health care remit continues to stigmatise Trans patients despite recent developments in research into the biology of Transsexual patients.
19. New procedures and surgical techniques for Transsexual patients still take too long to arrive in the NHS with other countries healthcare systems providing a greater level of expertise in Trans healthcare.
20. GPs continue to be in the dark when it comes to Trans patients often turning them away, being unhelpful and showing prejudice in their treatment.
21. Waiting lists for access to treatment for Transsexual patients in the UK are still too long with funding often been refused causing long drawn out funding battles leading to increased risks of suicide and people being forced into the private sector.
22. Some LGBT groups have lobbied their university's medical school to implement training on LGBT issues into their curriculum; others have held discussion events and forum events with medical and healthcare students to improve understanding of LGBT issues in healthcare.
23. There are many other methods by which LGBT students can achieve success in this area, including: lobbying medical schools, organising events with medical and healthcare students, working with medical societies and equivalent groups and organising speaker tours to talk about LGBT issues to medical and healthcare students.
24. Many LGBT students may be unsure of how to go about this.
25. That LGBT victims of domestic violence are often invisible due to lack of specific service provision.
26. A recent survey by Stonewall shows that 1 in 4 Lesbian and bisexual women have suffered domestic violence, but only four in five of them reported it to the Police. Of those who did, only half were happy with the response.
27. LGBT people often feel more reluctant to report domestic abuse to the police or to domestic abuse organisations for fear of homophobia and transphobia.
28. That it is difficult for us to know how to tackle LGBT domestic violence as there has been very little research done into this area, especially students or young people.

Conference Resolved:

1. To continue to make better access to healthcare a priority campaign for 2009-2010
2. To conduct a nationwide survey of LGBT students on their mental and physical healthcare needs and experiences, so that appropriate resources and evidence of specific health needs can be presented to campus healthcare providers.
3. To work with THT to deliver training for LGBT groups on how to lobby Primary Care Trusts on local provision for LGBT people.
4. To use the LGBT healthcare manifesto to shape our work on this issue into 2009-10 and beyond.
5. To campaign for the language used in doctor-patient interactions to not assume the patient is heterosexual.
6. To campaign for this language to be more direct and clinical, allowing for further elucidation if necessary.
7. To further its work to improve healthcare for LGBT people, by releasing an official statement of support of the work of groups campaigning for the age of cervical cancer screening in England to be lowered from 25, back to the previous age of 20, to match the age that screening is available in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
8. To work with our NHS in clear and healthy guidance for lesbians who wish to inseminate.
9. To work with the NHS, GPs and sexual health centres at sourcing self-insemination kits for stock in our students' union advice centres.
10. To campaign to shut down companies like Man Not Included as unethical and sexist.
11. To lobby the government to improve health care for all Trans patients
12. To work with the current Trans healthcare providers to further improve their service
13. To campaign for greater education of Transgender during doctors medical training
14. To lobby national PCTS to ensure their GPs as front line healthcare providers are "Trans Aware" and up to date on reading the NHS' own Trans information for healthcare workers publications.
15. To campaign against the members of the DSM review committee currently reviewing Transsexuality as a psychiatric condition listed in the manual due to two of the members being "Transphobic"
16. To facilitate a working group of LGBT student activists, medical students and healthcare students, with the common aim of improving education and understanding of LGBT healthcare issues within the medical and healthcare education.
17. That this group will provide advice and support to individual students and LGBT groups looking to work with medical and healthcare students.
18. To produce a guide on how to organise such activism within institutions, and how to organise with medical and healthcare students, using best practice examples from those institutions who have achieved such successes.
19. To work with Broken Rainbow on a research project looking into domestic violence and LGBT students and young people.
20. To support Broken Rainbow in their work to improve service provision for LGBT victims of domestic abuse.

21. To support the NUS Women's Campaign in campaigning against domestic violence and all violence against women.

306 Mental Health

Conference Believed:

1. Disproportionately, more LGBT people than non-LGBT people suffer depression and serious mental illness including conditions diverse as depression through to serious psychotic conditions. Mental illness and isolation within the wider community often leads to suicidal and self-harm tendencies.
2. This is not caused by a person's gender identity or sexuality, but is an effect of negative support given to LGBT people by wider society, for instance no safe space to talk about issues of depression or anxiety, or persistent negative connotations made by work colleagues, fellow students etc about a person due to their sexuality or gender identity.
3. 1 in 4 students suffer from mental health.
4. Although there have been no specific figures it is thought that the 1 in 4 statistic doubles in the LGBT community.
5. Recent research by Stonewall found that almost two-thirds (65%) of lesbian, gay and bisexual pupils has experienced homophobic bullying in school and as a result of this almost 50% had contemplated suicide or self-harm.
6. Services that exist on our campuses to help students suffering from mental health are often heteronormative and have never received and specific training on LGBT issues.
7. That social stigma and inequalities mean that LGBT people are put under significant pressure in every day life, often leading to self harm and suicide.
8. An estimated 2,725 young people call ChildLine each year to talk about sexual orientation, homophobia or homophobic bullying. Males account for 55% of the calls about these issues, even though they account for only 25% of total calls to ChildLine. Boys were more than twice as likely to report being physically bullied. 60% of the young people who called Childline about sexual orientation, homophobia or homophobic bullying were 12-15 years old. (ChildLine, Sexual Orientation, homophobia and homophobic bullying).
9. In *The Bullying of sexual minorities at school: its nature and long-term correlates* (Rivers 2001) found that of 119 LGBT adults who had been bullied at school:
 - a. 53% had contemplated self-harm as result of being bullied.
 - b. 40% had attempted suicide on at least one occasion.
 - c. 30% had attempted on more than one occasion.
10. A survey, in 2006, of 6000 pupils aged 15 and 16 found that 11 per cent of girls and 3 per cent of boys reported that they had self-harmed within the last year. (Samaritans 2006)

Conference Further Believed:

1. Depression is a downward spiralling illness of the mind, and once a person experiences depression, it is more likely that they will suffer from continuing bouts of depression for the rest of their life.
2. Other mental health issues include psychiatric issues, often involving personality.
3. It is now commonly held that mental health issues, which are recognized disabilities, are caused by societal interactions of the environment with a person, thereby changes in society and environments are required to be inclusive of those of us with different mental architectures.
4. Stamping out LGBT-phobia would be the best remedy for LGBT people with mental health issues!
5. We need to take on fascists, bigots and many organized religious doctrines in order to combat LGBT-phobia.
6. Discrimination from healthcare professionals towards LGBT people is still present.
7. A recent study carried out by NHS researchers claimed that some still try and find a "cure" for LGBT people. This is blatant public display of institutional homophobia.

Conference Resolved:

1. Issue to students' unions a briefing on Mental Health and LGBT students, promoting LGBTMind as an excellent organization to contact confidentially.
2. Work with Advice UK and the Nightline organization to provide bespoke training to volunteers, advice centres and counselling services on sympathetically handling LGBT mental health issues.
3. Enter a dialogue with main faith representatives in the UK (including Christian, Islam, Hindu, Jewish, Sikh and Buddhist) in agreeing a universal statement of support and inclusivity of LGBT people within faith communities.
4. The LGBT Campaign should seek to influence the spending of local Primary Care Trust and other external bodies that would benefit out LGBT students.
5. We should publicly speak out against those that still see LGBT people as a curable disease.
6. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should show a lead on this often hidden issue and conduct its own research into self harm and suicide of LGBT Students.
7. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should publicise national help lines such as Childline and Switchboard services on its website.
8. To raise awareness of this issue in colleges and universities working with Welfare officers and University/college staff.

307 Sexual Health

Conference Believed:

1. One in ten sexually active 16-24 year olds have Chlamydia.
2. Men who have sex with men (MSMs) are the group most at risk of contracting HIV, and a range of other STIs, in the UK.
3. Less than half of lesbian and bisexual women have ever been tested for an STI or HIV, of those that have, over half have tested positive for an infection.

4. Sex between women is classed as “low risk” in terms of STI transmission by the NHS, whether safe sex is practised or not and regardless of the number of sexual partners.
5. Getting statistics on the transmission of STIs in women who sleep with women is difficult due to lack of research in the subject.
6. Around two thirds of all HIV transmissions in the UK are between men who have sex with men.
7. 1 in 7 gay men in London, and 1 in 20 in the rest of the country, have HIV. 1/3, over 10,000 men, do not know they have it. Late diagnosis greatly increases the chance that they will pass their virus on, while seriously endangering their own health.
8. 11% of new HIV infections are in the 16-24 age group which is an age group that would include students.
9. Between 1997 and 2002 ethnic minority men accounted approximately 1/10 HIV diagnoses of new HIV diagnoses in MSMs.
10. Infection rates are disproportionately high amongst ethnic minorities.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should show a lead on this often hidden issue and conduct its own research into self harm and suicide of LGBT Students.
2. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should publicise national help lines such as Childline and Switchboard services on its website.
 1. To raise awareness of this issue in colleges and universities working with Welfare officers and University/college staff.
 2. That sexual health is one of the main issues raised by LGBT students on our campuses.
 3. That recent STI and HIV awareness campaigns targeted at students have ignored issues specific to LGBT students.
 4. That there is inconsistency on our campuses when it comes to the issue of sexual health, particularly on LGBT issues.
 5. That the NUS are ideally placed to help national campaigns disseminate information to LGBT students.
 6. That LBT women are often left out of sexual health campaigns and resources.
 7. Classing sex between women who sleep with women as “low risk” is misleading and gives the impression that STI transmission cannot or will not occur.
 8. This false sense of security has resulted in an increase in transmission of certain infections between women who sleep with women.
 9. That some LGBT students sell sex (porn or sex work) in order to raise money for their degrees.
10. That there are lots of very good national campaigns which affect the issues LGBT students face but they are not local enough to affect real change.
11. That NUS LGBT events do not openly promote good sexual health or offer sexual health information.
12. Condomless-sex has become a transgressive commodity in the Porn industry, earning higher short-term financial rewards for the participants but at the risk of contracting STIs including HIV.

Conference Resolved:

1. To mandate the NUS LGBT Campaign to deliver sexual health workshops, in association with leading organisations, at Activist Training Days.
2. To campaign for the improvement in facilities for LGBT students at sexual health clinics.
3. To encourage LGBT societies and Unions in both FE and HE to campaign for on campus sexual health services and screening in partnership with PCTs and Third Sector.
4. To mandate the NUS to provide support to Unions in FE and HE who wish to engage with local health services.
5. To support and work with the Terrence Higgins Trust for greater investment in HIV prevention services.
6. To support and work with national HIV awareness campaigns like the THT THIVK campaign.
7. To engage with national and local projects to put together practical resources for LBT women including an information leaflet on sexual health.
8. To provide an information resource targeted at LGBT students who sell sex.
9. That NUS LGBT events should openly provide those in attendance with free condoms, lube and dental dams and information leaflets where appropriate.
10. To mandate the NUS LGBT to pressure the NUS Welfare Campaign to include specific LGBT health advice in all of their sexual health material.
11. To mandate the NUS LGBT Black Representative to work with the LGBT reps on Black Students’ Committee to campaign against and further investigate the increased risks of STD infection in Black LGBT groups.
12. To lobby Primary Care Trusts to provide free dental dams.

308 A Sensible Drugs Policy – We Need Evidence-based, fair and compassionate drugs policy now!

Conference Believed:

1. According to the NHS, in comparison with young heterosexual people, LGB young people are 3 times more likely to take MDMA, 8 times more likely to take ketamine and 26 times more likely to take Crystal Methamphetamine.
2. Substance misuse is a concern among trans communities. Barriers to accessing treatment include a lack of sensitivity by service providers and gender segregation within programmes, which serve to exclude trans people.
3. Poly drug use is also a major concern amongst LGBT drug users.
4. While under the effects of drugs including alcohol, people are more likely to participate in risky sexual behaviour.
5. A study at Manchester University showed that when drug users enter drug treatment programs instead of jail, they are far more likely to be rehabilitated.
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2008/nov/17/manchester-university-crime-study>
6. The government has recently refused to lower the classification of MDMA to Class B and upgraded Cannabis to Class B against the wishes of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.
7. Drug including alcohol facilities are closing at an alarming rate.

8. An impact assessment on the effects of the current drug laws has never been carried out.

Conference further Believed:

1. LGBT illegal drug users suffer more than straight ones due to the added effect of criminalisation of their drug habits, possible mental health problems and wider discrimination in society based on their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
2. Criminalisation of the users of some drugs makes them less likely to seek treatment.
3. Drug use should be treated as a public health issue and not a criminal justice matter.
4. Owing to a fear of losing votes, the government is too afraid to take a pragmatic approach when it comes to drugs policy.
5. NUS LGBT has an obligation to stand up for the stigmatised and often hard to reach members of the young LGBT community.

Conference Resolved:

1. To mandate the LGBT Committee to encourage LGBT groups across the country to provide safer drugs use advice for their members.
2. To oppose the criminalisation of all drug users and to write a letter to the home office making this known.

309 GNT into FE

Conference Believed:

1. It is much more likely that HE will have gender-neutral toilet facilities than FE
Trans students study in FE as well as in HE
2. In institutions where gender-neutral toilets have been implemented, Trans inclusion has increased
3. Gender-neutral toilets can benefit a number of different social groups, not just Trans
4. FE LGBT societies can encounter lots of opposition when trying to lobby the college to implement GNTs.

Conference Further Believed:

1. Colleges play a significant role in furthering Trans students education
2. NUS have helped and supported the HE unions with their implementation of GNTs.
3. FE may not have a well established LGBT Society, and may only cater for LGB students
4. FE Unions may have a gender group where Trans issues are ignored

Conference Resolved

1. For NUS LGBT campaign to support and encourage FE LGBT societies/Unions to implement GNTs where possible.
2. To promote the "Trans Students' Briefing" to all FE Unions and LGBT Societies
3. NUS LGBT to encourage FE Unions and/or LGBT societies/gender groups to be Trans inclusive
4. For the LGBT Officers and committee to create a simple guidance toolkit around the need for and the implementation of GNTs in an FE College.
5. To work with the VP Welfare on the creation of the toolkit to ensure that Trans welfare is highlighted and promoted throughout.

310 Promoting our Protections

Conference Believed:

1. That the LGBT rights movement, which the NUS LGBT Campaign is part of, has fought for and won many significant victories over the years in regards to lobbying the UK Legislature to recognise the need for LGBT people to have specific legal protection from discrimination on the grounds of their sexuality, and from homophobic and transphobic discrimination.
2. That despite the LGB protection laws already in place, research has shown that one in five gay people have been victims of hate crime in the last three years.
3. That research has also shown that three quarters of these victims of hate crime did not report the incidents they experienced to the police.
4. That there is no legislation relating to hate-crime based on trans identity.
5. That policy has been written by the "Forum on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Equality in Post-school Education", of which NUS is a part, on equality for Trans staff and students.

Conference further Believed:

1. That every LGBT student should be aware of their rights, and of the protection from discrimination, homophobia and transphobia that they are already legally entitled to.
2. That making efforts to promote current legal protection available to LGBT students does not equate to an agreement that the legislation already in place goes far enough to protect the rights of LGBT people.
3. That the "Forum" intends to create resources for training and educating staff in FEIs and HEIs and Students' Unions on Trans issues and related legislation and policy, with input from the NUS.

Conference resolved:

1. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should take action to ensure that LGBT students can become educated about what protection they are currently given by UK law, by producing downloadable resources, which provide comprehensive and up-to-date information on current anti-discrimination and anti-hate crime legislation.
2. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should take action to ensure that LGBT students can become educated about what to do if they experience discrimination or hate crime, by clearly encouraging all victims of discrimination or hate crime to report such incidents, and by providing downloadable information on ways they can go about this.
3. For the NUS LGBT Campaign to promote currently existing resources relating to anti-discrimination legislation and policy and to hate crimes.
4. To lobby for laws which related to hate-crime based on gender identity and gender expression.
5. That the NUS LGBT Campaign continue to work with the Forum, particularly on the project of developing training resources on Trans equality.

311 Opposing "Miss University" Pageants in Universities and FE

Conference Believed:

1. Whilst we may live in the 21st Century, promoting diversity and equality, many organisations and individuals still cling to the sexist ideals of patriarchy, swallowing our society in a downward spiral of misogyny.
2. The mainstream media still promote a narrow vision and concept of beauty, which is pushed by porn barons and other organisations which see human bodies as a tradable commodity first and foremost.
3. In the Western Hemisphere, beauty is also defined on racial grounds, with a disproportionately tiny number of Black women being put forward in commercial advertising.

4. Recently, sexist lads mags, such as FHM, solicited promotional work from Gail Trimble in the guise that beauty is linked to intelligence.
5. Persistently, Sub.TV, a company backed and promoted by NUS's trading arm NUSL, beams degrading objectifying images of women into our "safe space" environments. Whilst we can "switch off sexist Sub.TV", with NUSL providing these sexist companies a platform and indirectly our money, our bodies will still remain a tradable commodity, treating women as objects.
6. Graphic images have also been broadcast in student and campus media of glove puppets fisting women, performing oral and anal sex on women and this is proudly sanctioned by Sub.TV's favoured laddish channel Fur.TV.
7. This motion is not about telling people what they can and cannot watch, but it is about campaigning for and providing safe spaces for our members in our facilities, without constantly having to censor media we fund due to their sexist, laddish objectifying misogyny.
8. A private entertainments company has established a 'Miss University of London' competition that has held 'heats' for several colleges throughout the University of London group including King's College, UCL, LSE and SOAS and held a 'final' in February 2009.
9. There was strong protest from LGBT groups and LGBT officers as well as women's groups and women's officers.
10. The winner of the Heythrop College heat was not only denied a place at the final but was also not allowed into the building where it was held on the basis that the contestant is biologically male.
11. Anti-pageant students protesting against women's objectification also protested against transphobia.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That 'Miss' pageants contribute to the perpetuation of narrow gender stereotypes.
2. That 'Miss' pageants do not represent the diversity of the student population and can be particularly alienating to gender variant students. That 'Miss' pageants impact on the welfare of these students and may contribute to their marginalisation from SUs.
3. That these events may currently be seen as official University events, as endorsed by their SU or even publicised on campus.
4. That 'Miss' pageants violate the equal opportunities policies of Educational Institutions by promoting the idea that only one 'type' of student may represent that Institution.
5. That 'Miss' pageants have no place in Education.

Conference Resolved:

1. To support NUS Women's conference's motion 'Opposing Objectification of Women University Students' and to extend condemnation of 'Miss' pageants as openly transphobic and potentially damaging to the welfare of gender variant students.
2. To encourage all affiliated Unions to ban such competitions from their Unions and oppose those held on campus or under the names of their Universities or FE Colleges.
3. To encourage all affiliated Unions to actively distance themselves from such events by issuing statements clarifying that 'Miss' pageants are not official SU events.
4. To do so without demonising those who take part in pageants but whilst emphasising the wider effect of such competitions.
5. To support the Miss-Ogynist protests, organised by women's groups across London.
6. To write to organisations such as Object, supporting their continuing campaigns against objectification.
7. To support the Women's Officer and our LGBT Officers in challenging sexism and racism wherever it occurs.
8. To hold a meeting with Sexist Sub.TV about their inappropriate content, and to authorise the Committee to permanently Switch off Sub.TV if Sub.TV doesn't agree to our Committee's broadcasting and media protocol.
9. The broadcasting and media protocol shall be drawn up by the Committee and all media available through NUSL shall adhere to this protocol.

312 Maternity and Paternity Rights

Conference Believed:

1. Department for Work and Pensions Minister Pat McFaddon MP is blocking the introduction of the new EU Directive on maternity rights being extended into the UK, stating that the UK will 'negotiate an opt-out'
2. Whilst the Minister is correct to say that UK maternity rights are greater than the current EU minimum, the thrust of the new Directive is to empower parents, especially women to take decision on how they take their maternity leave, pay and other rights.
3. Currently statutory maternity pay is 90% of salary and the EU proposes to make this 100%, but for a shorter time.

Conference Further Believed:

1. Statutory pay rates are a legal minimum and do not bind companies or Member State governments from agreeing higher and more extensive packages.
2. Pat McFaddon should consult someone with experience of maternity, paternity and parenting campaigning, such as the NUS Women's Campaign, the Fawcett Society or indeed the European Commission, not his well-groomed research puppet!
3. Disproportionately LGBT parents suffer when these rights are restricted or in some way capped.

Conference Resolved:

1. Access to maternity and paternity pay, leave and general rights must be enshrined in a Charter of Rights for Parents and not left up to Ministers' good intentions.

2. Campaign that maternity and paternity rights are assessed under equality legislation to ensure they are equal for LGBT parents, and to produce evidence of this in the Report and Plan next Conference and in online blogs.

313 Liberating Drag Kings

Conference Believed:

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

Conference Further Believed:

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

Conference Resolved:

1. For gender expression to be a part of the 2009 Activist Academies and for the Committee to publish a Briefing on gender expression to Students' Unions.
2. For NUS to include drag kings, as well as other gender expressions, in their images, including drag king mothers.
3. For the Committee to invite a drag king to LGBT Conference 2010 as a guest speaker.

Zone 400: Society & Citizenship Zone

401 Pride is a Protest

Conference Believed:

1. That Pride marches started as a political protest for LGBT rights.
2. That the LGBT movement is rooted in direct action such as the Stonewall riots and the early Pride marches.
3. That some Pride events now charge entry for Pride marches.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That the political meaning of Pride has been lost and Pride events are becoming ever more commercialised – being driven by 'gay business'.
2. That charging entry into Pride marches limits involvement only to those groups who can afford to pay, and stops grassroots involvement.
3. That the result is that marches are dominated by bars, clubs and businesses who have no political message but instead hijack the event to advertise themselves.
4. That the commercialisation of Pride is just one part of the increasing dominance of the 'pink pound' over the lives of LGBT people.
5. That the commercialised gay scenes dominated by the pink pound exploit queer people in order to make a profit.
6. That the fight for LGBT and Queer liberation is not over and that the movement needs more than just a parade; it needs direct action.
7. That students in Birmingham organised a Pride march under the banner of 'Pride is a Protest' and Manchester Pride anti-commercial actions by students took place.

Conference Resolved:

1. To stand against the charging for entry to a Pride march.
2. To raise the slogans of "Pride Not Profit" and "Pride is a Protest" at any Pride marches we take part in.
3. For the NUS LGBT campaign to help organise and support political Pride marches and campaigns against Prides that charge a entry fee into the Pride march.
4. To organise a national demonstration to demand LGBT and Queer liberation, as a political alternative to the apolitical business-driven parades of Pride festivals.
5. For this demonstration to also raise the other priorities of our campaign, such as: the plight of LGBT asylum seekers, the inaccessibility of the education and healthcare systems and the epidemic of homophobia, transphobia and biphobia in the media.
6. An audit by Pride organisers should be conducted on the ethics of all companies and published to our Committee and wider.

402 Love without Borders: Expanding the Campaign

Conference Believed:

1. That this year NUS LGBT continued work on Internationalism, and the Love without Borders campaign.
2. That several LGBT societies have run successful Love Without Borders campaigns and events this year.

3. That homosexuality is still punishable by death or imprisonment in many countries around the world.
4. Homophobia, biphobia and transphobia are still present worldwide.
5. The European Union (EU) recognizes that Lithuania is the most homophobic Member State of the EU, and this was supported in August 2008 by the Foreign Minister of Lithuania who commented that "it would take a generation" to take a more tolerant attitude towards homosexuality.
6. In 2007 an international conference on LGBT rights in Lithuania's capital Vilnius was attacked by the discharge of poisonous gas! The gassed building was sealed off by Police, even though delegates at the Conference were continuing to suffocate and be poisoned!
7. In nearby Russia in 2006, neo-Nazi thugs beat up participants in the Pride March in Moscow, including a German MP. In Latvia, stink and paint bombs were thrown at their Pride March in Riga.
8. Worryingly the LGBT-phobia in the Central and Eastern European continues with the 2008 Romanian LGBT rights march being stoned by protesters and for Polish citizens, their leaders regularly use anti-LGBT policies to enhance their popularity.
9. That homophobia from the African continent is on the increase and more and more LGBT people, most young LGBT persons between the age of 17-35 face homophobic attack at an early age
10. That many LGBT persons from Africa see an escape to Europe as an alternative to a better life and an escape from early death which includes suicide and death threat.
11. That religion has been used as a tool to discriminate against LGBT people in Africa and this has helped family reject and denounced their sons and daughters.
12. That Politician in Countries like Nigeria, Uganda, Zimbabwe have used anti LGBT issue to win votes
13. That HIV treated in Africa does not include LGBT people; most times they are persecuted and jailed instead of being treated.
14. Asylum as a process constantly questions the validity of the refugee.
15. This is a concern in Asylum cases that officials are often too concerned with proving a stereotypical LGBT identity that looking to determine whether that individual is fleeing from genuine persecution.
16. In many cases whether for acting too overt or too under the radar refugees are sent back to their country of origin on the grounds that they can be more "discrete", this standard of behaviour is not common to other asylum seekers fleeing due to their position in a persecuted social group.
17. Australia has abolished the "discretionary option" and this has been reference in UK law!
18. That fleeing ones family, friend and background is most times not the best options
19. That returning vulnerable people back to countries without protective laws is like sending them to death
20. That the Home office has shown little or no understanding of issues affecting LGBT people around the world that the indiscriminate return of LGBT people is a violation of their human rights

Conference Further Believed:

1. That we live in a global community and therefore should use the privileges we have in this country to fight for the rights of others who are not so fortunate.
2. That 57 countries signed against the UN Declaration on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.
3. The Obama administration has removed America from the list of countries who would not sign up to it, which includes Russia and China, and signed it on the 17th March 2009.
4. That showing solidarity with International LGBT groups and campaigning for International LGBT rights are of extreme importance, and the International Day Against Homophobia represents a good opportunity to do so.
5. That in many countries such as Jamaica without laws banning homosexuality, civil justice often takes the form of murder and gang rape
6. That it is extremely difficult to gain asylum due to LGBT status, as York University found when trying to help one of its students. All but the most visible and most strongly fought asylum cases are likely to be thrown out and those applying deported.
7. That in the past the NUS has supported successful appeals for asylum based on LGBT status and is currently working to keep Kizza Musinguzi in the UK.
8. LGBT students from countries which do not support LGBT people may need additional support within unions and the NUS
9. That the union is an ideal environment to work with international students to promote discussion and co-operation on LGBT issues and the Love Without Borders campaign has proved successful in doing so up until now.
10. That such campaigns will not be a success without non-LGBT involvement and the LWB campaign at York University gained far more support from non-LGBT students than previous campaigns.
11. Central and Eastern Europe was essentially run by the Soviet Union until 1990, as part of the Warsaw Pact, and evidence shows that Central and Eastern European countries closest to the West and who have been longer in membership of the EU, have the lowest LGBT-phobia and the most supportive legislation (though in many cases still not ideal!)
12. The Stalinist ideology of the Warsaw Pact essentially crushed LGBT liberation.
13. Indeed many of the Warsaw Pact countries now part of or neighbouring the EU have some of the most horrendous LGBT abuses in the world, outside of those run by religious fanatics.

Conference Resolved:

1. To mandate the Officers and Committee to continue to support unions running the Love Without Borders Campaign
2. To continue to support asylum cases on a local and national level
3. To continue to support the Love Without Borders Campaign on a national level
4. To encourage LGBT societies to work together locally for effective action.
5. To encourage LGBT societies to support International LGBT societies and show solidarity with them.

6. To work in partnership with the NUS International Students Campaign on the Love without Borders campaign.
7. To encourage LGBT Societies and LGBT Officers to run Love without Borders events, fundraisers and demonstrations
8. To mandate the NUS LGBT Committee to encourage, facilitate and support IDAHO events run by LGBT Societies.
9. To encourage LGBT Societies to contact International LGBT groups showing solidarity with them and campaigning on their issues.
10. To campaign to liberate LGBTQ Palestinians from homophobic Hamas and the oppression of the occupying Israeli forces. For the Committee to audit all Council of Europe member countries and Switzerland, using appropriate statistics available from qualified bodies, in relation to their LGBT-friendly society, policies and rights.
11. To campaign against homophobia in Africa by starting an NUS LGBT campaign against anti gay activist in Africa
12. Lobby parliament to lobby African countries sign up to the UN charter on Human and Gay rights
13. To campaign that HIV prevention and treatment in Africa should be non discriminatory.
14. To lobby parliament and foreign Embassy in the UK to do more to promote tolerance for LGBT people in Africa.
15. To work with Al Qaws (the rainbow) for gender and sexual diversity in Palestinian society.
16. That there should be a campaign around the homophobic attitude of the Home office
17. That there should be an over hauling of the asylum system to reflect the present situation on anti LGBT campaign going on around the world
18. That the Home office should revisit its policy on safe countries and unsafe countries when it comes to LGBT
19. that there should be a classification for LGBT issues on the asylum policy
20. That cases rejected on the ground of unstained evidence should be reviewed by the home office
21. That the Home office should stop deporting LGBT people back to places where they face discrimination, abuse, imprisonment and death.
22. To lobby parliament to change asylum law and policy as it affect LGBT people
23. To lobby that parliament that returning LGBT people back to places where they face discrimination, abuse, imprisonment and death is a violation of their Human rights
24. That the Home office should train and retrain its asylum team around LGBT issues and current issues around the world.
25. The LGBT Campaign to develop a handbook on the asylum process as it affects LGBT people so that individual Unions can be informed and run effective campaigns.
26. To encourage Constituent Members to sign petition <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/lgbtasylum> and to present the petition to the Home Office in due course.

403 Donation not Discrimination

Conference Believed:

1. In the UK someone receives blood every 30 seconds (National Blood Service website).
2. Only 4% of the population donates blood.
3. 2,000 blood donations are needed per week
4. The NHS is in constant need for donors to save lives
5. Men who have had sex with another man and women who have had sex with a man who has had sex with another man are forbidden from donating their blood regardless of whether or not safe sex was practised.
6. All blood is screened for infection.
7. 0.00001% of blood donated is infected with HIV/AIDS. 2/3 of which comes from heterosexuals.
8. The Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust has overturned their ban on Gay and Bisexual Men from joining their register.
9. Stonewall has raised awareness by publicly joining the NUS LGBT's position against the National Blood Service policy.
10. Many LGBT people, particularly Lesbian and Bisexual women, are eligible to give blood, as are our allies.
11. National Blood Service refuses to allow gay and bisexual men who have ever had sex with a man, to give blood
12. NUS LGBT Campaign has run a high profile campaign "Donation not Discrimination" against this policy.
13. Anyone, regardless of sexual orientation or sexual practice, can register as an organ donor.
14. Hundreds of people die every year whilst on the transplant waiting list, because there are not enough organ donors

Conference Further Believed

1. When questioning for eligibility for blood donors, questions regarding gender of one's partner should be replaced with questions regarding high risk activity.
2. Archaic rules such as these serve only to re-enforce the stereotype that HIV/AIDS is a "gay-disease."
3. Most people are unaware of the guidelines surrounding blood donation other than the fact that men who have had sex with men cannot donate.
4. NUS LGBT does not promote boycotting blood donation sessions, but does not actively promote blood donation by those who are eligible.
5. Gay and bisexual men who want to save lives but cannot give blood can save lives by becoming organ donors.
6. LGBT people can show that we are serious about wanting to give blood, by being serious about giving organs and signing the organ donor register – we do want to save lives and we do want to bring about change.

Conference Resolved

1. To continue to lobby the NHSBT, with a view to overturning the ban.
2. To publicly applaud groups such as The Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust and Stonewall for supporting a progressive protocol.
3. To work with Stonewall to put pressure on the relevant bodies.

4. To include information regarding the other guidelines for donors in discussions around blood donation, highlighting the fact that many members of our community are able to give blood.
5. To encourage those who are eligible to give blood to do so, especially during Donation not Discrimination events.
6. To encourage all LGBT students to give the gift of life, by joining the organ donor register, and informing family and friends of their wishes.
7. To have organ donor registration forms at any Donation Not Discrimination event (where possible) and to encourage all Constituent Members and LGBT groups to do this at blood drives on campus or locally.
8. To include information about organ donation, and that anyone can donate organs regardless of sexuality, in any future Donation Not Discrimination materials produced.
9. To include links to (for online materials), and website addresses of (for paper materials) UK Transplant and Live Life Then Give Life in any future Donation Not Discrimination materials produced.
10. When the blood ban is publicly discussed, to mention that there is no organ donation ban. This will inform gay and bisexual men who want to give blood, that there is another way for them to save lives.

404 Civil Partnerships are Civil!

Conference Believed:

1. Conference deplores the fact that the continued denial of the validity of Civil Partnerships and the use of the excuse of religion by alleged Christians is tantamount to gay bashing and continued bigotry.
2. Civil Partnerships are civil ceremonies devoid, like civil weddings, of religion and mysticism and are designed to enable Gay men and Gay women to have their loving relationships registered in the public sphere.
3. That Partnership Law is devolved in Scotland, that is to say that the Scottish Parliament legislates for it, not Westminster.
4. That in Scotland, like the rest of the UK, Gay couples cannot have a civil partnership ceremony in a religious setting.
5. That some churches in Scotland have been doing gay blessings for 40 years.
6. That not all churches and denominations oppose gay marriage, with one of the major churches in Scotland allowing gay clergy to be ordained and live with their partners.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That civil partnerships are a huge step in the right direction.
2. That separate but equal does not equal equality.
3. That those LGBT people of a religious background who belong to an accepting denomination should be entitled to get married in a church like their straight counterparts.
4. That the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign has launched its Equal Marriage Campaign in a bid to combat this.

Conference Resolved:

1. To congratulate the London Borough of Islington for taking a stand against bigotry in its provision of services particularly in the Registration Services and in ending the contract of Lillian Ladele
2. To deplore the fact that the Christian Institute is using the case of Ms Ladele and supporting her case to the Court of Appeal in an attempt to engineer legalisation of religious bigotry into law.
3. Supporting Civil Partnerships is only a step in obtaining full equality and the debate for equality should go beyond Civil Partnerships for LGBT.
4. That the NUS LGBT Campaign support the NUS Scotland LGBT Campaign's equal marriage campaign.

405 BDSM Rights: An LGBT Issue

Conference Believed:

1. That BDSM refers to the practice, orientation or lifestyle of Bondage and Discipline, Domination and Submission, Sado-Masochism and related activities.
2. That many activities that consensual BDSM practitioners participate in are illegal under current UK law.
3. The Criminal Justice Act 2008 outlaws various forms of "extreme" pornography.
4. BDSM Liberation organisations such as CAAN (the Consenting Adults Action Network) have spoken out against this legislation.
5. The Government's consultation document for the Criminal Justice Act (2008), clearly states that research has found no causal link between exposure to violent sexual imagery, and propensity to commit violent sexual acts.
6. That the Consenting Adult Action Network (CAAN) statement of principle, which reads:
7. "We believe in the right of consenting adults to make their own sexual choices, in respect of what they do, see and enjoy alone or with other consenting adults, unhindered and unfettered by government. We believe that it is not the business of government to intrude into the sex lives of consenting adults."

Conference Further Believed:

1. That children, and non-consenting adults, need to be protected from being the victims of sexual activity
2. Activities that take place between consenting adults behind closed doors are not the business of government.
3. That LGBT people are more likely than heterosexual and/or cis people to be victimised in matters pertaining to sex and pornography - demonstrated in cases such as R vs Brown where gay men received disproportionate punishment - whilst straight, heteronormative couples are often let off by judges.
4. "Pornographic" BDSM imagery is often instrumental in educating BDSM practitioners in safe practices.
5. That policy on censorship must be equal and evidence-based .

Conference Resolved

1. To sign up as an organisation to CAAN's statement of principle in solidarity with BDSM rights activists.
2. To inform NUS LGBT membership about issues pertaining to censorship and pornography, and specifically how they affect LGBT people.
3. To lobby for safe BDSM information and education.

Zone 200: Strong & Active Unions Zone

201 Training & Campaigning to Win

Conference believed:

1. That in November 2008 the second year of Activist Training Days were held, with a 25% increase in numbers on the previous year.
2. That the Activist Training Days focussed on developing and strengthening LGBT societies; campaigning and lobbying for change; gaining knowledge on specific LGBT issues; problem-solving; and sharing best practice on issues affecting local LGBT societies.
3. That the current national LGBT Committee had a three day training residential in July 2008 that equipped them with knowledge and tools they used to be effective and active this year.
4. That LGBT students in Further Education have different concerns to those in Higher Education.
5. That several areas of public policy are devolved to the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly.
6. In particular, the Scottish Parliament can legislate on crime law, and both parliaments can legislate on health for their jurisdictions.

Conference further believed:

1. That as a result of the Activist Training Days we have seen many vibrant campaigns run across the UK and important networks built up between local students' union LGBT representatives.
2. That during the reform consultation process that occurred this year, many LGBT students called out for more local and regional action and for more in-depth training opportunities, especially for LGBT officers and leaders of LGBT societies.
3. That building local and regional networks of students is an extremely effective campaigning tool, allowing both proactive and reactive action.
4. That providing the national LGBT Committee with extensive and tailored training has shown results; the committee took an active role in running the Activist Training Days and have been more visible than ever before, visiting campuses and running workshops and events.
5. That all our training must reflect our membership, and we must work harder to ensure Further Education issues are mainstreamed into the training of Higher Education students.
6. That to fully empower our activists in Scotland and Wales, they must be trained with local information and laws in mind.
7. That effective advertising is needed to ensure high attendance to the Activist Training Days.
8. That it is of extreme importance to ensure participation from a diverse range of activists; LGBT people are women, black, disabled, FE, mature, postgraduate and international!

Conference resolved:

1. To continue to champion the training of activists and hold 6 Activist Training Days in November 2009, building on the effective programme that was launched in 2008.
2. To advertise these events from the beginning of summer, not just to LGBT students, but to all sabbatical and part-time students' union officers as well.
3. To hold a residential training event specifically for LGBT Officers or LGBT society heads in summer 2009.
4. To give this event a focus on how to be an effective activist, with specific attention to leadership and motivating other people into action
5. To ensure that at this training event there are reserved places for Further Education students, which will be free of charge.
6. To utilise the LGBT Officers trained at this event as "regional leaders" and launch Regional Action Networks, led by the national LGBT Committee and these LGBT Officers, with the aim of rolling out effective local, regional and national campaigns.
7. To promote "twinning" between local universities and colleges, to share best practice.
8. To continue to effectively train the national LGBT committee, with specific focus on Further Education issues

202 Putting LGBT into FE

Conference believed:

1. Further Education students (college students) outnumber Higher Education (university students) in the UK, and make up the majority of NUS members
2. That last year the NUS LGBT Campaign held a training day called "Putting the LGBT into FE" where 25 Further and Higher Education students were trained up in promoting and developing LGBT societies and campaigns in colleges
3. That linking in with this work is a briefing (available as a hard copy or online) called "Putting the LGBT into FE"
4. That research carried out in 2006 by the Centre for Excellence in Leadership into the experiences of LGB students and staff in Further Education highlighted the need for LGBT societies to be present in colleges, not only to provide a safe space for LGBT students, but also to increase retention rates of LGBT students and provide a greater student experience
5. The research also showed that both students and staff wanted greater co-operation between students and staff, and more student/staff LGBT networks created
6. Most HE Unions have some sort of LGBT society or group there are significantly less LGBT societies in FE than HE
7. FE Colleges have different ways and structures for their LGBT societies; some are staff-led, some student-led.

8. The existence of LGBT societies in FE and HE Students' Unions is often vitally important to support students during their time at College or University.

Conference further believed:

1. That the "Putting the LGBT into FE" initiative has allowed the development of LGBT societies in colleges, but a lot more work needs to be done
2. That there are specific issues for Further Education students that often (but not always) don't apply to students in Higher Education, such as –
3. A lack of funding from either the students' union or college for an LGBT society to be launched
4. A lack of resources
5. Unco-operative colleges and college staff that sometimes don't even realise they are affiliated to NUS
6. Colleges and sixth-forms with a religious ethos may not always be so keen to promote an LGBT society
7. It can be hard for FE students to set up their own LGBT society without encountering homophobia from other students or college staff
8. It can be hard acquiring funding for LGBT campaigns or events if there's no Student Union budget there to help fund it.
9. It can be hard acquiring student autonomy from the college in the LGBT society within FE
10. LGBT students find it harder to come out in FE rather than HE.
11. LGBT students need a safe, welcoming atmosphere in FE in order to progress confidently into HE or into employment.
12. LGBT societies provide a vital outlet through campaigning activity, networking, support and social activity.
13. LGBT societies right across the UK are often severely under-funded this can restrict their ability to carry out the activities they may wish to.
14. FE Student Unions are often the most severely restricted in their ability to support their work financially.
15. LGBT societies should be supported financially wherever possible.
16. It is important that despite financial restrictions, campaign activity within societies can still be prioritised.
17. Collaborations between societies from institutions in the same city, region or location is a great way of strengthening campaigns and supporting the work of societies – across Further and Higher Education.

Conference resolved:

1. To re-launch the "Putting the LGBT into FE" initiative, but re-focussing it to include the following actions –
2. The continued development of strong and active LGBT societies and campaigns in colleges
3. The promotion of twinning between local colleges and universities
4. The focussing of the "Liberation in Every Union" initiative to creating more LGBT officers in colleges
5. The creation of an FE LGBT focus group, to enable more FE LGBT students to steer the direction of the Campaign and deliver for the needs of Further Education
6. The promotion of developing stronger staff/student links and launching staff/student LGBT groups
7. To work with the NUS Vice-President (Further Education), the Further Education representative on the national LGBT committee and the five (or more) Further Education NEC block members in delivering these actions.
8. Work with the NUS VP Union Development and VP Further Education to make sure Students' Unions in FE are supportive towards their LGBT societies.
9. To ensure that the national LGBT committee has training in Further Education issues, and that they are out in colleges as well as universities developing LGBT societies and supporting local campaigns and events
10. To always deliver our paid events at a lower cost for Further Education students, and look into delivering more free events for Further Education students
11. To encourage LGBT societies to think about how they can join together to support one another in campaigning activity.
12. For LGBT societies to look at where they can share costs, so that they are able to ensure more money can be saved to be spent on activity to benefit students through the year.

203 For a Fighting, Feminist Campaign

Conference Believed:

1. That sexism is still exists, and the LGBT campaign must challenge the myth that women are equal in society.
2. In order to gain true LGBT liberation, we must defeat sexism.
3. That the root causes of homophobia, sexism and transphobia are indistinguishable.
4. An LGBT campaign which is detached from feminism and the women's movement is one which isn't truly delivering for its members.
5. That many LGBT societies are not representative of women, and struggle to get women involved.
6. That black women, bisexual women and Trans women are even less likely to be involved in our movement and within LGBT societies.
7. Feminism is a central pillar of NUS LGBT Campaign as its mission is to campaign for equality for all.
8. All forms of discrimination come from the same route, be it sexism, homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, racism or any other form.
9. It is vital that women have their own space to organise and set the direction for the feminist fight.
10. The NUS Women's Campaign Conference voted this year to have all their activist training days' events for self-defining women only.
11. Gay men do indeed feel isolated from feminism, and we should do all we can not to isolate them further.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That the high level of women's involvement due to effective women's representation is something that as a campaign we should be proud of.

2. That the LGBT community is not exempt from the oppression of women, and we must never forget that as a movement we too can be guilty of sexism.
3. That Trans women are woefully underrepresented in the women's movement, often due to misunderstanding of trans issues.
4. Feminists annually organise rallies, campaigns and awareness of issues which are part of building a new and equal society.
5. Once women have set that direction for their fight for equality, it is vital that they engage, train and stand side by side all those who don't self-define as women but identify as feminists.
6. It is not only self-defining women who can be feminists.
7. Learning about feminism and feminist activism can be beneficial to many LGBT groups.
8. Many LGBT groups do not have women's representation.

Conference Resolved:

1. To re-affirm our commitment to women's representation and feminism within our campaign
2. To work with the women's campaign to put on an LGBT women's network day
3. To work with the women's campaign to re-establish the root causes working group, which looks into the root causes of sexism and homophobia.
4. To update and relaunch the 'Under Construction' Women's guide to help LGBT societies involve more women.
5. To work with the women's campaign to get more trans women involved in the women's movement
6. To run workshops at every Activist Training Day about LGBT people in the feminist fight supported by our Sisters in the Women's Campaign.
7. To campaign to the organisers of events such as Reclaim the Night and Million Women Rise to be more inclusive of different gender identities that experience sexism.
8. However, if not successful self-defining women to still support their work while we continue to lobby.
9. To continue to uphold our policy against Julie Bindle as her efforts as a women's and lesbian rights campaigner do not counter the hate that she incites towards a proportion of our Campaign's members.
10. To oppose the criminalisation of sex workers which is forcing women to work alone increasing their vulnerability and to condemn and oppose those parts of the Policing & Crime Bill 2009 which seeks to oppress and criminalise our sex workers.

204 Student Club Nights are for ALL Students, not just the Straight, Cisgendered Ones!

Conference believed:

1. That there are Queer and LGBT students at every students union in the country.
2. That many student unions run LGBT/Queer specific club nights
3. That over 30 student unions have signed up to NUS's Flirt! branded club nights.
4. A union wishing to run Flirt! Has to pay £1500 in the first year for a license and then £1000 each year after. Additional fees apply to branded events.
5. Flirt! has branding which includes 'toilet door' figures of a 'man' and a 'woman'.
6. Sexist and heteronormative t-shirts are worn at the events by staff with 'Miss Flirt' and 'Master Flirt' on them.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That Flirt! is heteronormative and that the Flirt! branding and some Flirt! events are homo-/bi-/transphobic.
2. That LGBT and Queer students should be welcome at all Union club nights, not just those specifically aimed at LGBT and Queer students.
3. That LGBT and Queer students are not always fully understood or sensitively handled by union bar staff and bouncers etc.
4. Our Sisters in the Women's Campaign have voted unanimously to "Switch off Sexist Sub.TV" and to "sanction NUS for its appalling catalogue of sexism".
5. National Conference has approved national policy branding NUS as a catalogue of appalling sexism, and the objection to this policy ratification was withdrawn at Conference 2009.
6. Our Unions must be safe spaces for our members, all our members! This does not just mean safe for only white, middle class straight cisgendered men!
7. Flirt! operates through NUS's promotion branding events which are inherently sexist and deeply heteronormative.
8. If only this appalling event's branding stopped there: Flirt and NUS promote "Pimps and Ho's", a deeply offensive theme promoting the control and abuse of women.
9. We cannot allow our Union's and students' monies to be spent on the proliferation of LGBT-phobia, sexism, racism and unsafe spaces.

Conference Resolved:

1. To campaign for NUS to make Flirt! branding and events less heteronormative and more accepting of Queer and LGBT students.
2. To run a creative campaign against heteronormativity and homo-,bi- and transphobia at student club nights.
3. To produce a briefing pack and run workshops at training events on how to make student club nights welcoming and accessible to Queer and LGBT students.
4. To include in the briefing pack information on the access needs of trans students at club nights, paying particular attention to their need for gender neutral toilets and to be able to use the toilets of their choice unquestioned.
5. To issue to SU staff, through AMSU and NUS, a guide on being inclusive and running inclusive events for LGBT students.

6. To mandate the LGBT Committee to work with the “NUSSL: A Catalogue of Appalling Sexism” policy of National Conference and the Women’s Campaign to de-sexism and de-LGBT-phobia NUSSL, Sub-TV and Flirt!
7. To censure Flirt! as a deeply offensive event to many LGBT students, and to write to NUSSL outlining our policy towards Flirt! (and similar events NUSSL promotes) and ask them to agree to a Safe Space Protocol, drawn up by the LGBT Committee covering the requirements of these Resolves.

Zone 500: Education Zone

502 Trans Awareness in our Education

Conference believed:

1. That in 2005 NUS LGB Campaign became NUS LGBT Campaign in acknowledgment of the historic shared discrimination that lesbians, gay men, bisexual and trans people have faced within society.
2. That society still has a misunderstood and stereotypical view of trans people.
3. That medical professionals are often ill informed about trans people and this further inhibits trans people's access to medical care.
4. That there are major differences in the law protecting LGB and Trans people
5. That Westminster parliament continues to use a limiting definition relating to Trans people in legislation, only protecting some Transsexual people in law
6. Students outside of LGBT and even some LGB students are often unaware of Trans issues and suffer from misunderstandings of Trans terminology caused by inaccurate media representations.
7. Many student unions/guilds have very little displayed information on Trans people.
8. That almost all applications for undergraduate courses in the UK are run by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS).
9. That UCAS currently only recognises the genders male and female.
10. That many students applying through UCAS identify outside the male / female dichotomy.
11. That many universities and colleges base their monitoring data on the data provided by UCAS and, for consistency, maintain these categories throughout a student's period of study.
12. That 28.5% of trans students have taken time out of their studies because of issues related to their gender identity (ECU: 2009)
13. That gender identity was a factor in their choice of institution for 23.7% of trans students (ECU: 2009)
14. There is no standardised method for monitoring trans students.

Conference further believed:

1. That Transgender Rights in terms of awareness is still behind that of LGB rights.
2. Medical students and students in general often go through university without ever receiving information on Transgender
3. The recent consultation report prior to drafting of the new single equality act shows the governments lack of awareness of Transgender issues by proposing excluding non transsexual transgender people from protection within it.
4. Student Unions/guilds often lack information and support in promoting Trans issues and equality.
5. Transgender often gets over shadowed by campaigns for LGB.
6. That universities do not identify or monitor other genders because UCAS do not.
7. That this narrow definition of gender disenfranchises those who do not identify as male or female.
8. That we are missing vital information about the experiences of trans students at university because of this.
9. That proof that there are trans students at an institution can encourage the implementation of policies and awareness raising campaigns relating to trans students.
10. That monitoring of trans students can provide evidence as to whether an institution's attempts at trans inclusion are working.
11. That the categories currently used to monitor trans students can be alienating both those trans people who identify within the gender binary and outside of it.
12. That monitoring practices need to be consistent across the post-school education sector.
13. That some students may wish to change or remove the gender marker on their university record during their period of study.
14. That almost all applications for undergraduate courses in the UK are run by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS).
15. That UCAS currently only recognises the genders male and female.
16. That many students applying through UCAS identify outside the male / female dichotomy.
17. That many universities and colleges base their monitoring data on the data provided by UCAS and, for consistency, maintain these categories throughout a student's period of study.
18. That 28.5% of trans students have taken time out of their studies because of issues related to their gender identity (ECU: 2009)
19. That gender identity was a factor in their choice of institution for 23.7% of trans students (ECU: 2009)
20. There is no standardised method for monitoring trans students

Conference resolved:

1. To promote an annual student Trans awareness day across all Universities
2. To further promote the inclusion of Trans awareness into specific course specifications at university where it would be most appropriate for example medicine and psychology.
3. To provide more information for Student Unions/Guilds on Trans issues and equality
4. To encourage more outside workshops on Trans issues into universities
5. Promote outward thinking Trans specific awareness campaigns promoting awareness outside of LGBT.
6. To work with other relevant bodies to develop and promote a standard method of monitoring trans students.
7. For this monitoring to be inclusive of both binary-identified and non-binary-identified trans people.
8. To produce a briefing on the monitoring of trans students and gender markers on student records, similar to those on trans students in accommodation and gender neutral toilets.
9. To lobby UCAS to broaden their definition of gender.

10. To lobby universities to do the same, regardless of whether UCAS makes the change or not.
11. To lobby universities to include all trans students in equal opportunities monitoring.

504 Safer Youth

Conference Believed:

1. 65% of young lesbian, gay, and bisexual pupils in the UK have experienced direct bullying in schools (Stonewall estimates that up to 60,000 schoolchildren are the victims of homophobic bullying). Approximately 1 in 3 young LGBT people in the UK self harm or attempt suicide.
2. There are an estimated 450,000 gay and lesbian pupils in schools. One in four secondary school teachers report that they are aware of physical homophobic bullying, yet only 6 per cent of schools have policies that address the problem.
3. Every Child Matters (2003) and The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (1991) state that All public authorities that work with children, including state schools, have a legal duty to ensure all children are treated in a rights respecting way. This includes the right to be free from violence, abuse or neglect (Article 19), the right to an education that develops your full personality and talents (Articles 28 and 29)
4. The Equality Act (Sexual Orientation Regulations) [2007] Section 13 says that all students have an equal right to education, regardless of their real or perceived sexual orientation.
5. Research done in 2001 by the University of York has shown that gay pupils with six GCSEs are more likely than heterosexual students to leave school at 16.

Conference Further Believed:

1. That such bullying cannot continue.
2. That education is a key method of combating prejudice, and increasing awareness of LGBT issues among young people is not only a step towards making schools safer places to be for LGBT school students, but would have a knock-on effect of creating a more inclusive local community in which LGBT HE and FE students feel comfortable living.
3. That LGBT awareness workshops in schools, such as those run by the University of Manchester, have been well-received and successful.

Conference Resolved:

1. To encourage both HE and FE institutions to forge links with local schools and assist them in combating homophobic bullying in whatever way possible.
2. To support those FE colleges with established links to local schools in running awareness campaigns in their own institutions as well as advertising them to the schools with which they are linked.
3. To create a central anti-homo/bi/transphobia resource package that LGBT groups could use to run workshop days in school.

Zone 600: Emergency Motions

602 Condemning the Cure Conference

Conference Believed

1. That attempts have been made by Dr Joeseeph Nicolioie to 'cure' homosexuality.
2. That this has been widely reported in the past 24 hours.
3. That Iris Robinson MP has spoken out in favour of the procedure
4. That the Anglican mainstream church group have organised a two-day conference to be held over this weekend to promote awareness and take-up of this procedure.

Conference Further Believed

1. The Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCP) have made a statement that there is no scientific basis or evidence to the success of this procedure, or that homosexuality is a psychiatric disorder that needs 'curing'.
2. That the RCP believes application of this procedure could cause lasting harm to participants.

Conference Resolved

1. To mandate the LGBT Committee to issue a statement on behalf of the conference in opposition of this procedure and promotion of this procedure, whilst the Anglian mainstream conference is ongoing.
2. For the LGBT Committee to work with the RCP to speak out and inform the wider public about this unscientific and potentially harmful procedure.

Conference Believed

1. Unpaid and part-time elected officers and representatives of the NUS do not receive the same expenses rates as staff members of the NUS for attending the same events.
2. We must ensure the full participation of volunteer students in the NUS and recognise that currently many elected people have to use their own money to carry out the duties they have been mandated and elected to do (e.g. travelling to students' unions around the country, attending conferences and events and committee meetings etc.)
3. It is unacceptable to expect elected office holders to spend considerable sums on doing their job: this excludes students for poor backgrounds and sends out the wrong message that election in NUS is for more wealthy or better funded students.
4. Fee-Waivers enable some institutions to be able to participate in LGBT Conference, and most often are applied for by Further Education unions and small Higher Education unions.
5. Steering Committee is responsible under the Standing Orders for receiving and approving Fee Waivers, and this is governed by a protocol agreed between the LGBT Officers and the Steering Committee, which was first formally written in 2008.
6. Participation in a democratic campaign is the core principle which must steer Steering Committee in its decisions.

Conference Further Believed

1. We must move to a system whereby full reasonable expenses are paid to all elected office holders in the same way and rate as NUS staff currently and rightly are.
2. Widening participation and ensuring finances are no block to any student is an important principle, especially for LGBT students who can and do often face estrangement and financial troubles first hand.
3. The cost of Fee Waivers has been discussed with the central budget manager and from the next budget, funds will be allocated centrally to cover a number of Fee-Waivers.
4. Once the central budget is exhausted, additional Fee Waivers will have to be funded most likely from the LGBT Campaign's own funds.
5. It is absolutely vital that to protect our autonomy as a campaign, it is our elected Conference representatives (LGBT Committee and Steering Committee) solely decide on Fee-Waivers: horrifically shocking examples to justify application for Fee Waivers, such as allegations of homophobic, biphobic and transphobic treatment by Unions' sabbs, staff and liaison officers; people not out being forced to effectively out themselves by expressing an interest in attending Conference and more recently vile racist, sexist bi- and trans- phobia requiring potential delegates to "prove" their sexuality, make public statements about their sexual orientation/gender identity and for bisexuals, being excluded for being in a non-same-sex relationship!

Conference Resolved

1. LGBT Campaign to ask the Trustee Board as a matter of urgency to ensure that the expenses of our elected office holders are paid to the same level as NUS staff.
2. We will not pay our elected LGBT Officers poverty wages, which they currently are and to refer this matter to appropriate authorities within NUS for immediate rectification.
3. To reaffirm that Steering Committee is responsible for looking after and ruling on Fee Waivers.
4. To commend the allocation of central resources to enable participation in our campaign and mandate the Steering Committee and LGBT Officers to work with central budget holders and the Trustee Board to further increase resources to extend and build our democracy with further dedicated resources, and to clearly explain to the Trustees the barriers which our campaign members face in participating in the democracy of the LGBT Campaign.

Conference Believed

1. HIV risk is on the increase, with the already establish statistic of 1 in 3 men not knowingly having it. There needs to be grater emphasis on testing and treatment. To make it the 'norm' to be tested.
2. HIV/AIDS has huge social and economic issues with many not being able to get Mortgages or loans to start up. Also the problem that comes with gaining a fair Health Insurance Policy for travel.
3. There is little or no information except with localized specialist clinics about what options there are for drug therapy or even if and when people need treatment at all.
4. There are still many misunderstood and false connotation that are around most are untrue. Unless direct bodily fluid contact happens (e.g. Blood to Blood) then it is near impossible to transfer the virus.
5. Some student are encouraged by cash incentive to participate in pornographic films, often which include the sexual 'bare backing' practice.

Conference Further Believed

1. There is no clear cut LGBT stand on HIV/AIDS, this can make people feel alienated and alone.
2. The NUS has for too long looked over the issues that Positive LGBT students and the stigma that is attached.
3. There is little training given to LHA health workers in basic thing like how the virus replicates. Or what the true implications are other than death.
4. Positive people do not cause any harm, most live day to day lives. But often people feel left out or very alone. Which can cause them to drop out of their education.

Conference Resolved

1. HIV/AIDS should be given it's own platform as well as sexual health. The need of positive LGBT students needs to be protected.
2. There is information on the HIV/AIDS in every FE and HE SU.
3. There is a formation of a basic network where students can come in a safe forum to communicate.
4. To fight for equity, to beat the discrimination and stigma that is attached to the virus.
5. To co-ordinate with the 'Love with out Borders' to give those who may not be able to seek treatment in their own countries, to receive support and health care while in the UK.
6. There personal right that you have to disclose you HIV/AIDS status as a LGBT person is a infringement of rights.
7. To discourage the trade and practice of such films containing 'bare back' in them.
8. To incorporate and support from NAT and THT.

606 Moving Wallpaper - and we though Chris Moyles was bad!

Conference Believed

1. On March 20th, ITV broadcast an episode of the Kudos-produced comedy series "Moving Wallpaper" that featured a trans character named Georgina.
2. Over a million people watched this broadcast.
3. Representatives from numerous trans organisations have spoken out against the manner in which Georgina was portrayed as a "tranny", a "cock in a frock", a "walking GM crop": in short, a dehumanised stereotype.
4. Ofcom has received over 80 complaints about the episode.
5. The controversy has been mentioned in media outlets such as the Metro and the Pink News but has not been widely reported.
6. On April 20th, the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) announced that they do not intend to take any action on the issue, claiming it was not within their remit (a claim contested by EHRC employees).
7. The EHRC is meant to fight discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, but according to veteran activist and EHRC employee Christine Burns they have taken very little action on the behalf of LGB and queer people, and none on the behalf of trans people.

Conference Further Believed

1. In our heteronormative, patriarchal society, transphobia is considered socially acceptable and is rife in the media.
2. The portrayal of Georgina in "Moving Wallpaper" and the transphobic, misogynistic language used casually by other characters to refer to her was extremely offensive and completely unacceptable.
3. Uncritical portrayals of transphobic and trans-misogynistic language and behaviour, particularly for the sake of so-called comedy, perpetuates and encourages harassment and violence toward trans people.
4. Both ITV and Ben Miller (who appeared in the programme) offered "apologies" that attempted to excuse their behaviour rather than accept responsibility for and change it.

Conference Resolved

1. To condemn
 - a. Kudos and ITV in the strongest possible terms for producing and broadcasting this hideously bigoted, ill-informed and prejudiced drivel masquerading as entertainment.
 - b. The EHRC for letting down the very people that they are meant to protect.
2. To mandate the NUS LGBT committee and officers to write letters explaining the reasons for the campaign's condemnation and disgust to
 - a. Kudos
 - b. ITV
 - c. the EHRC
3. To submit a complaint about the episode to Ofcom.

609 LGBT Rights - the Turkish Police Getting Away with Murder

Conference Believed

1. Ahmet Yildiz, a Turkish gay rights activist was shot dead last year in broad daylight, while sitting in a cafe. This was perhaps Turkey's first gay 'so-called' honour killing.
2. On the 10th of March 2009, Ebru Soykan a transgender activist was murdered. Ebru was a campaigner against the harassment of LGBT people by the police in Istanbul.
3. Only last year, a Turkish prosecutor tried to close down the country's leading LGBTQ rights group, Lambda Istanbul.

Conference Further Believed

1. The harassment of LGBTQ activists and individuals by the police in Turkey is routine and often goes unchallenged.
2. Turkey is a candidate country for membership of the EU.
3. The body of Ahmet Yildiz still waits in a Turkish mortuary, as his family will not claim his body. His partner is not legally allowed to claim his body.

Conference Resolved

1. To mandate the LGBT officers to lobby the Turkish embassy to support full LGBT equality in Turkey (and Northern Cyprus) and initiate a discussion of the issue with the Turkish government.
2. To lobby the British government to request that the protection of LGBT rights are a prerequisite of EU membership for all candidate countries.

3. To condemn the inaction of the Turkish police in not properly investigating these murders as well as their routine harassment of LGBT individuals and activists.
4. To work closely with Lambda Istanbul, other Turkish LGBTQ rights groups and the Turkish community groups in this country to see how we as a campaign can support LGBTQ rights in Turkey, without triggering a massive backlash from the Turkish religious right and nationalists.

610 We are gay, we are black, we are proud!

Conference believed

1. That there is a high rate of homophobia within the BME community in the UK
2. That internalized homophobia within the BME gay community is on the increase
3. That fear of persecution from families, friends and schoolmates will not make many BME students accept themselves and their sexuality.

Conference further believed

1. The discrimination within the BME community is based on the notorious believe that BLACK CANT BE GAY
2. That the BME faces in the LGBT community in the UK further enhance this believe.
3. That BME LGBT students hardly have a safe place both within the community and outside of it.
4. That the lack of BME LGBT student role model further creates this assumption that black can't be gay.
5. That the representation of BME students at this year conference has increased compared to the past, but the increase is still far below expectation

Conference Resolved

1. The NUS LGBT should do more to get BME LGBT students faces out there
2. Should encourage further work with LGBT officers of different union to come up with programs to encourage BME LGBT students to get involved
3. To promote BME LGBT student role model by celebrating out and successful BME LGBT student
4. To further support a better working relations between the Black student LGBT officer and the NUS LGBT committee member
5. To set out a 2-year campaign around reducing homophobia within the BME community in the UK with programs like LOVE MUSIC HATE HOMOPHOBIA.

Zone Welfare & Student Rights

Heading: Fighting the BNP

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. That the NUS LGBT Campaign should take a part in education students about the threat of fascist parties in the run-up to the general and local elections.
2. To work closely with UAF and LMHR supporting initiatives and events and producing joint publicity helping to alert the LGBT student community to the BNP threat.
3. To work with LMHR to organise more Love Music Hate Homophobia events.
4. To reaffirm our opposition to the BNP and all they believe.
5. To re affiliate to Unite Against Fascism (UAF)

6. To build on the successes of Love Music Hate Homophobia by collaborating further with UAF and Love Music Hate Racism to formalise LMHH ensuring NUS LGBT is at the heart of the initiative
7. To work with other liberation campaigns and non defining allies in NUS, trade unions and civil society to help combat fascism
8. To include further 'LGBT and Anti-Fascism' workshops at officer and activist training events
9. To mandate the NUS LGBT Committee to work with other organisations to create an Activist Tool Kit to Anti-Fascist Activism
10. To strongly oppose all attempts the fascist organisation to enlist our support for Islamophobia.
11. To Affiliate to the Right to Work Campaign at a cost of £30
12. To support the National Demonstration outside the conference of whichever party wins the general election in Autumn 2010 raising the slogans 'We won't pay for their Crisis,' 'Stop Homophobic Attacks - No Concessions to the BNP' and 'Defend a Woman's Right to Choose.'

Motion no: 202

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: HIV Treatments

Conference believed:

1. That HIV transmissions are increasing amongst MSM (men who sleep with men) in the UK
2. That newer HIV Treatment has not only dramatically increased the life expectancy of HIV positive people, but also tends to have fewer side effects than older treatment
3. That we are about to see a raft of government cuts to equal out government debt saddled by bailing out the banks
4. That according to Lisa Power from the THT (Terrence Higgins Trust) "public health will be at the bottom of the pile when it comes to what the NHS will spend money on in hard economic times and sexual health will be at the bottom of that."

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Support LGBT Workers

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Experiencing work, not discrimination

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Healthy FE

Conference believed:

1. In 2008, former minister Bill Rammell, introduced the National Healthy FE initiative
2. This is aimed to particularly benefit young people in colleges and sixth forms coping with the transition to adulthood.
3. The initiative is there to provide colleges with tools and support to address the health and wellbeing needs of each student, and even staff members.
4. Various QUANGOs (quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisations) support this initiative and have developed online tools to support colleges.

5. It isn't about creating something new: it's about working with FE providers to make the health and wellbeing of staff and students an integral part of all aspects of life in FE.

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Trans Inclusion in FE

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Liberate Prisons Now!

Conference believes:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: For a sensible approach to drugs

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. To affiliate to Students for Sensible Drug Policy UK and work with them on appropriate campaigns.
2. To run a session on "drug use in the LGBT community" at NUS Activist Training Day.
3. To mandate the LGBT Officers to write to the Home Office asking for an impact assessment of drug prohibition on LGBT people.
4. To mandate the LGBT Officers to write to the Home Office calling for an evidence based approach to drug laws, focussing on harm reduction.

Heading: Supporting Queer Homeless Youth

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Welfare, not Arbitrary Restrictions

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: LGBT-inclusive Personal Care

Conference believed:

1. A motion was passed at the 2010 Disabled Students conference to run a campaign highlighting the difficulties disabled students find obtaining personal care.
2. The campaign also wants to set up a pilot telephone line for disabled students struggling with personal care, accommodation and financial issues

Conference further believed:

1. That LGBT students should be entitled to an LGBT positive experience with all staff members they come in to contact with during study.
2. That the LGBT community is diverse and includes disabled students.

3. That LGBT issues are often considered low priority in terms of support staff training and this is a particular issue for personal care.

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Homophobic Bullying in Schools and Colleges

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Zone Society & Citizenship

Heading: Reclaim Pride

Conference believed:

1. That pride is at its core a protest; prides were originally founded as protests for LGBT and Queer liberation.
2. Prides should be accessible and be community led, their agenda should be political and supportive, not profit making.
3. Many prides in the UK have become commercialised and are dominated by businesses. Some prides have little input, accountability or control from the LGBT community at large.
4. At many prides the political message has slowly vanished, whilst at others there have been examples of censorship. At Manchester Pride one year the organisers told a student group what slogans they were and were not allowed on their placards for their parade entry, at that same pride the organisers tried to remove some placards from the Queer Youth Network entry.
5. In Sydney Mardi Gras, there have been rumours of straight actors being paid to 'act gay' for the Ikea float.
6. The NUS LGBT Campaign usually has a strong presence at Pride in Brighton & Hove ("Brighton Pride").
7. This year Brighton Pride will be charging groups that wish to participate in the parade; the reason given is that the council will be charging Pride for playing music.
8. Entry fees for local LGBT or HIV voluntary groups and/or charities (including local branches of national groups) are £45 for an entry with no music, or £75 for an entry with music.
9. Entry fees for national LGBT or HIV voluntary groups and/or charities are £70 for an entry with no music, or £100 for an entry with music.
10. That Pride London is one of the largest FREE Prides in the UK.
11. That the NUS LGBT Campaign was not present at Pride London 2009 as it had organised committee training for that weekend.
12. That the Pride London Parade is an explosion of Pride in the heart of the capital, attracting over 500,000 people in a celebration of diversity.
13. That in the UK, Pride events and marches are organised in most major towns and cities
14. Around the world, and even in Europe, pride festivals, events and marches are often banned by local authorities
15. Where they are not outright banned, they are heavily attacked by protesters, fascist groups and even the police.
16. Pride marches are not just targeted with counter protests but with physical attack and state sanctioned violence.

Conference further believed:

1. That students have engaged in campaigning around Prides and have mobilised many students, such as events at Birmingham pride and 'Reclaim the Scene' at Manchester Pride.

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

Conference resolved:

1. To continue the 'Pride is a Protest' campaign
2. To continue to oppose the charging for entry into a pride marches/parades.
3. To continue campaigning against the commercialisation of prides, and campaign for prides to be accessible and be community led.
4. To support prides where they exist even if we campaign against how they are organised, and support LGBT societies to engage at pride festivals
5. To work with trade unions and LGBT groups to create new pride festivals where there are none if there is the opportunity to.
6. To condemn Brighton Pride, and all other Pride parades and marches that charge voluntary organisations, student groups, trade unions, smaller political groups, charities, and ordinary LGBTQ people for entry.
7. To actively protest against entry charging and other disempowering policies whenever they occur at Pride events in which it participates.
8. The LGBT Campaign will support protests organised by others groups or campaigns, and will aim to follow the lead of local groups in doing so.
9. To support and promote (non-exploitative) fundraising activities for Pride events.
10. To mandate our LGBT Officers to attend Pride London.
11. That our LGBT Officers and Committee Members to take part in the Pride London Parade.
12. To have a NUS LGBT Campaign Stall in the Community section of Pride London.
13. To campaign for active student involvement in the planning and execution of Pride London.
14. That Committee training not be scheduled during the weekend of Pride London.
15. That the NUS LGBT Campaign tries to organise an event in the two week Pride London Festival.
16. As part of the Love Without Borders campaign, the NUS LGBT campaign should be campaigning for Pride Without Borders, standing in solidarity with pride marches across the world
17. To give our full support to Baltic Pride and send a message of solidarity to the organisers
18. Where pride marches are banned, to mobilise and campaign for them to be allowed to take place through direct action and lobbying.
19. To put pressure on European institutions to ensure no country in the Council of Europe is violating the human rights of LGBTQ people to hold pride marches.

Heading: Love without Borders

Conference believed:

1. That this year NUS LGBT continued work on Internationalism, and the Love without Borders campaign, for the third successive year.
2. This included; a demonstration against the cancellation of Belgrade Pride last summer; mass lobbying and direct action against the "Anti-Homophobia Bill" in Uganda"; a Love Without Borders-themed fundraising night for JFLAG (Jamaican LGBT rights organisation) in London and much more.
3. This was also the year when we saw Ugandan Kizza Musunguzi successfully achieve asylum here in the UK, after successful campaigning from NUS LGBT and other organisations.
4. That several LGBT societies have run successful Love Without Borders campaigns and events.
5. That homosexuality is still punishable by death or imprisonment in many countries around the world and homophobia, biphobia and transphobia are still present worldwide.
6. That returning vulnerable people back to countries without protective laws is like sending them to death.
7. That the Home office has shown little or no understanding of issues affecting LGBT people around the world that the indiscriminate return of LGBT people is a violation of their human rights.
8. That the NUS LGBT runs a campaign, Love Without Borders.

9. That, although the UK is one of only 14 countries worldwide to recognise asylum for LGBT people, many refugees are still refused asylum status.
10. One man supported by UKLGIG lost his case when the judge decided he 'didn't look gay'. If they are believed, people are often refused on the grounds that they can go back and relocate to another part of their country and 'live discreetly'.
11. Britain imprisons more migrants, including refugees and children - over 20,000 a year - for longer and with less judicial oversight than any other country in Europe.
12. 225 people had been held in immigration detention for more than a year in 2009 – and 45 for more than two years.
13. Until the 1905 Aliens Act against Jewish refugees, the UK had no immigration controls whatsoever.
14. In 2008, there were 66 mass deportation flights from the UK, deporting a total of 1,529 people. Both the frequency of such flights and their destinations have increased in 2009.
15. That Yarl's Wood detention centre has seen a hunger strike against sub-standard living conditions and the detention of children.
16. That scores of the 1300 people massacred by IDF bombs in the recent war on Gaza were LGBT.
17. That the Palestinians have a right to resist the occupation and decide their own future.
18. That the Palestinian "state" is completely at the mercy of the Israeli government which has broken up the democratically elected government of Palestine.
19. The Israeli government has been left free to act because of the acquiescence of western leaders and the background of the "war on terror."
20. That all this takes place as a result of 60 years of occupation and oppression of the Palestinian people backed by the Western states.
21. That the student solidarity movement for Gaza has been one of the biggest in a generation including over 25 student occupations and sit-ins.
22. LGBT Societies across the country have been involved in these occupations, most notably at Warwick and Queen Mary.
23. NUS LGBT proudly has a standpoint of "Liberation not Occupation" and has policy reaffirming conditions of war and occupation are the worst in which to fight for LGBT liberation.
24. That in the last year the talk of war and sanctions against Iran has increased
25. That Iran's poor human rights record including on LGBT issues has been used as part of the drive to justify sanctions and war
26. That harsh sanctions on Iraq led to the deaths of one million innocent people and did not remove the regime of Saddam Hussein
27. That a new movement for democracy and justice has exploded onto the streets following elections widely seen as fraudulent
28. That an external threat makes it easier for the Iranian regime to clamp down on human rights domestically, including against LGBT people

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. To encourage LGBT Societies and LGBT Officers to run Love without Borders events, fundraisers and demonstrations.

2. To continue to support asylum cases on a local and national level.
3. To encourage LGBT societies to work together locally for effective action.
4. To encourage LGBT societies to show solidarity with International LGBT organisations and campaign with them on their issues.
5. To express solidarity with all LGBT refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants trying to settle in the UK.
6. To oppose the building of any new immigrant detention centres through direct action and active campaigns.
7. To affiliate to the No Borders Network, supporting their campaign to end the border regime.
8. To campaign alongside UKLGIG and other relevant groups to make it possible for all LGBT people to move freely and live wherever they choose.
9. To work with asylum seeker solidarity groups to promote LGBTQ-sensitivity and to support their members.
10. To declare solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine and work with Al Qaws (the rainbow) for gender and sexual diversity in Palestinian society
11. To respect the democratic decisions of the Palestinian people.
12. To declare solidarity with those fighting for democracy and equality in Iran
13. To do adopt the position 'No to War! No to Sanctions!' and work with the Stop the War Coalition to ensure LGBT oppression is not used to justify war or sanctions
14. To reaffirm our position of Liberation not Occupation in practice by supporting mobilisations against a war on Iran
15. To continue supporting LGBT asylum seekers from Iran and other countries with poor human rights records

Heading: Rainbows not War

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Donation not discrimination

Conference believed:

15. In the UK someone receives blood every 30 seconds
16. Only 4% of the population donates blood.
17. 2,000 blood donations are needed per week
18. The NHS is in constant need for donors to save lives
19. Men who have had sex with another man and women who have had sex with a man who has had sex with another man are forbidden from donating their blood regardless of whether or not safe sex was practised.
20. All blood is screened for infection.
21. 0.00001% of blood donated is infected with HIV/AIDS. 2/3 of which comes from heterosexuals.
22. Many LGBT people, particularly Lesbian and Bisexual women, are eligible to give blood, as are our allies.

23. The National Blood Service refuses to allow gay and bisexual men who have ever had sex with a man, to give blood
24. That this year has seen the continuation of the Donation Not Discrimination campaign; a campaign that we have run for the last four years against the National Blood Services ban on gay and bisexual male blood donors
25. Our work has involved a high profile demonstration outside a SaBTO (the independent advisory committee for the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs) public meeting and more LGBT societies than ever before taking up the campaign and collecting thousands of signatures against the blood ban

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Vote with pride

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Votes at 16

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. For the NUS LGBT Campaign to support and/or join the Society & Citizenship zone in:
 - a. Lobbying political parties to get Votes at 16 on the agenda after the General Election.
 - b. Looking for an MP to support a Private Members Bill or a parliamentary debate on the subject
 - c. Drafting a motion for the TUC conference on Votes at 16 to gain support within the trade union movement.
 - d. Encouraging other influential organisations to join the Votes at 16 coalition.
 - e. Calling for radical changes to the way in which citizenship education is taught within the national curriculum, by commissioning an investigation into the experiences of students studying citizenship today.
 - f. Running a series of newspaper articles demonstrating the case for Votes at 16, to engage the wider public.
 - g. Getting students' unions to lobby local councils to give 16 and 17 year olds voting rights in local elections, and additional local decisions.

Heading: Recognising non-binary gender identities

Conference believed:

1. Legislation in the United Kingdom recognises only two genders: “female” and “male”.
2. Most institutions, organisations, groups and individuals recognise only two genders: “female” and “male”.
3. All of us are frequently presented with forms that ask us if we are female or male.
4. Some people are neither female, nor male.

Conference further believed:

1. There are a wide range of non-binary gender identities, which include genderfluidity, androgyny, genderqueer, bi-gender and a-gender, amongst others.
2. Non-binary individuals may live permanently as men, women or neither, or may shift between social gender roles.
3. Individuals with non-binary identities may have difficulty accessing public services and facilities, ranging from public toilets to sexual health clinics.
4. Individuals with non-binary identities have their genders systematically erased by a society that frequently refuses to accept non-binary titles, pronouns and modes of dress.
5. The failure of trans provisions in the Equality Bill to fully include individuals with non-binary identities meant that a great opportunity was missed.
6. A less gendered society will be beneficial in the wider fight against homophobia, transphobia and sexism.

Conference resolved:

1. To lobby the Government Equality Office to recognise the existence of non-binary gender identities.
2. To lobby equality organisations (such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission) that pursue trans rights agendas to fully incorporate non-binary issues into their work.
3. To work for the recognition of non-binary identities in all areas of public life, including education, healthcare, and the media.
4. To support student activists and LGBT societies who wish to lobby their Unions or institutions on non-binary issues, such as the inclusion of more than two genders on records.
5. To fight against the de facto collection of title and gender as mandatory fields on forms when it is not relevant nor absolutely necessary for the provision of the service offered by the data handler.

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

Submitted by: University of Manchester Students Union

Speech for: UMSU
Speech against: Free
Summation UMSU

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Positive trans media

Conference believed:

1. On the 19.10.09 Channel 4 aired the Bodyshock documentary “Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change”.
2. In response to complaints regarding usage of pronouns, Commissioning editor Simon Dickson of channel 4 released the following statement online,
“Thank you to everyone that has contacted Channel 4 to share their views on Bodyshock: Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change. The film has aroused a great deal of comment, almost all of it favourable, but I am sincerely sorry to hear that some members of the transgender community were upset by our use of biologically-accurate pronouns in the narration of the programme.
'It's important to remember that the majority of our audience will have had little or no understanding of transgender issues. The decision to use the pronouns we did was based on our responsibility to make the programme comprehensible to a mainstream audience.

'As many viewers have pointed out, the parents featured in our programme always referred to their child by their "preferred" gender. We were happy that this made it absolutely clear that each family had accepted and were extremely supportive of their child's decision.

'I hope you'll agree that Age 8 and Wanting a Sex Change was a story worth telling, and a story worth telling to as many people as possible, even at the risk of causing some dissatisfaction amongst those who understand the subject well already.'

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Pope Action

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Zone Strong & Active Unions

Heading: Defend Diversity & Democracy at Annual Conference

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. To formally write to the DPC expressing the opposition of the campaign to their decision and urging them to reverse the decision for subsequent conferences

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

Heading: For a feminist campaign

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. To maintain our stance as a dedicated feminist campaign, one that celebrates and defends women's representation at the highest levels of our movement.
2. To retain and defend gender balanced delegations at our conference
3. To work with the NUS women's campaign on fighting for representation of women in the wider student movement, and help defend any attacks on women's officers across the country.
4. To work with LGBT students on the ground to ensure LGBTQ women's representation in LGBT societies and student unions across the country.

Heading LGBT Campaigning Training

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

1. That as a result of the Activist Training Days and LGBT Officer Residential we have seen many vibrant campaigns run across the UK and important networks built up between local students' union LGBT representatives.

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading Committee Commitment

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

7. NUS LGBT is a progressive organisation at the forefront of LGBT issues.

Conference resolved:

1. To make handover smoother between the committee from one year to the next by ensuring interaction between the outgoing committee member and the incoming is available.
2. That training opportunities for committee members continues throughout the year.
3. If a committee member fails to attend two meetings during their term without sending apologies prior to the meeting they will be deemed to have resigned and the position will be re-opened for cooption.
4. To make information on committee meeting dates available to all self defining NUS Committee members and officers and in particular LGBT reps from other campaigns.
5. To look at the possibility of a 'root cause of oppression' working group including representatives from all liberation campaigns and academics

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

Conference believed

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

Conference further believes

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

Conference resolves

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

Heading: A safer future for LGBT Youth.

Conference believed:

1. The Government estimates suggest that up to 6% of the UK population is LGBT; other groups put the estimate at 10%. That's over 6 million LGBT people (DTI 2003).
2. There are over a hundred and fifty LGBT Youth Groups across the UK to provide welfare, support and social activities for thousands of LGBT Youth. (Gay Youth UK)
3. Recent studies show that LGBT people have significantly higher than average rates of anxiety, depression and self-harm (The National Inquiry into Self-Harm, 2006).
4. 65% of young lesbian, gay, and bisexual pupils in the UK have experienced direct bullying in schools (Stonewall estimates that up to 60,000 schoolchildren are the victims of homophobic bullying).
5. Lesbian, gay and bisexual people who have been bullied are less likely than their peers to continue into further or higher education. They are also more likely to contemplate self-harm or suicide. Similarly, a higher than average proportion of trans people leave school at 16, (although research has shown that around a third take up further and higher education later in life). (Camden LGBT Youth Forum, 2008)

6. LGBT people are more likely to become victims of hate crime. A poll in 2001 found 68% of respondents had experienced homophobic abuse (GALOP 2001).
7. That some LGBT Youth Groups are under threat of closing down, such as the Lesbian and Gay Youth Manchester group, due to lack of funding.

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Discrimination in Societies & Sports Clubs

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading: Fight for the right to Party

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. To begin a Fight for the Right to Party campaign that both lobbies student unions, venues (where appropriate) and supports LGBTQ societies in carrying out this campaign at a campus level.
2. To campaign by lobbying student unions not to promote or endorse events, clubs or venues that are LGBTQ-phobic.

3. To encourage unions to demand that venues outline their policy regarding treatment of LGBTQ visitors in writing before considering their endorsement or promotion.
4. To encourage unions to ensure that their internal events are LGBTQ-friendly.
5. To encourage unions to promote LGBTQ and LGBTQ-friendly events.
6. To create a written guide for unions, venues and LGBT societies on the subject of active inclusion of LGBTQ students at events and nights out
7. To create a Fight for the Right to Party campaign guide and workshop to provide information and support for student LGBTQ societies to tackle this issue at a campus and local level.
8. to encourage the campaign for fight for the right to party to be adapted for use with and by other liberation campaigns.

Heading: Poly People

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolves:

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

Heading Increase Communication - Utilising Officer Online

Conference believes:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading Stronger Nations

Conference believes:

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

Conference further believes:

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

Conference resolves:

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

Heading: Trans Involvement

Conference believed:

1. That the majority of sabbatical officers come from a elitist non liberation background and are often Heteronormative, Socially Normative Cisgendered, white men
2. The lack of election rules on many campuses ensure only rich or mainstream politically supported students can win elections
3. That Trans Students often face direct and indirect discrimination and obstacles that other students don't face when standing in elections due to institutionalised Transphobia

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Heading Mainstream Identities – Inclusion not discrimination

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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

Zone Education

Heading: No Compromise on Free Education

Conference believed:

1. That after years of underfunding for post-16 education, the Government brought in tuition fees and then top-up fees and this academic year could see the lifting of the £3,000 cap on university tuition fees.
2. In a recent survey two thirds of Vice Chancellors wanted an increase in fees between £4,000 and £20,000 per year.
3. That students face soaring costs of living and student debt and poverty are already spiralling.
4. That the market dominates our education system from school to college to university.
5. That NUS LGBT Campaign has a policy to campaign for free education and universal grants voted through at the last conference. All the NUS liberation campaigns now have free education policy.
6. Despite different systems operating in Wales and Scotland, students from these nations still face financial hardship, as they don't receive living grants.
7. Part-time and International students' fees are unregulated and rise without any real justification.
8. Chief among the arguments in support of the new system was that it would widen participation; estimates vary but broadly show this has not happened.

Conference further believed:

1. Higher Education has transformed the lives of huge numbers of LGBT people, often giving them a chance to meet other LGBT people and come out about their sexuality in a setting far more appealing than the places in which they have been brought up.
2. One in four LGBT people between the ages of 18-25 are at some stage emotionally and financially estranged from their parents, an astronomically higher ratio than the national average. LGBT students thus continue to be discriminated against by the current means-testing system of education funding.
3. Many LGBT students who receive no financial support from their parents for their education as a result of being open about their sexuality are nevertheless unable to seek additional funding through claiming estrangement.
4. Forcing students to be financially dependent on their parents furthermore means that many LGBT students who do receive financial support from their parents face an added financial pressure to hide their sexuality. Such pressure flies in the face of any move toward a more progressive and equal society.
5. Students should not have to disclose their reasons for estrangement (especially in the event of LGBT oppression) when applying for student financial support.
6. LGBT students may be delayed from beginning their university education because of the length and distress of the process of proving estrangement, or may not begin at all because of the costs involved. In addition, students who become estranged during the academic year cannot reapply for further funding to reflect their change in circumstance.
7. The only way of overcoming these problems is the reinstatement of universal grants, funded through progressive taxation and a re-prioritisation of government resources.
8. Arguing against means-testing does not let the rich 'off the hook' any more than arguing against means-tested access to healthcare: wealthy parents should not only have to pay for their own son's/daughter's education, but should fund the education system for society as a whole.
9. A campaign for completely free education for all may not be entirely successful but will re-orientate the debate in the right direction.
10. As the whole of our society benefits from a more skilled work-force Higher Education should be funded as part of the government's overall economic priorities. To suggest that Britain can't afford a necessary, quality, free system of higher education is simply wrong and reveals that the government has the wrong economic priorities
11. Rather than waste billions of pounds bailing out bank shareholders, maintaining a level of military spending far beyond the country's means (and much higher than others such as Germany, for example), developing a new generation of nuclear weapons to replace Trident or bringing in costly ID cards the government should instead be expanding access to Higher Education, by reducing, not increasing, the cost to individual students. This would have massive long term economic benefits

12. Unfortunately, NUS' recent blueprint, 'Funding Our Future' advocates that students should pay even more for Higher Education than they already do
13. The Governments claims that shifting more and more of the costs onto individual students and their families was necessary to increase the proportion of young people in Higher Education is now completely exposed by its decision to freeze students numbers this year and to, at the same time, consider increasing fees.
14. That funding cuts always hit minority students the hardest, they damage widening participation schemes and student support.
15. That it is often support facilities which LGBT and other students rely on which are hit first.
16. That LGBT students have particularly high levels of estrangement and thus are forced to rely on state support services.
17. That students tend to achieve lower grades in their first year than the following two years.
18. That many LGBT students find it harder to complete degrees than their straight and cisgendered counterparts and so two year degrees would leave us at a bigger disadvantage.
19. That universities may cut union block grants to save money resulting in possible job losses.
20. That cost saving measures in Essex university resulted in the sacking of membership services staff who overlook society provisions.
21. That LGBT societies provide crucial welfare services and any cutbacks to membership services departments will seriously affect the ability of LGBT societies to meet their members' needs.
22. That the NUS LGBT campaign needs to work with all forces interested in stopping these cuts.

Conference resolved

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

Heading: Defend EMA

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

1. For the LGBT Campaign to join the FE Campaign in:
 - h. calling on the Government to keep the EMA system
 - i. defending the £10 and £20 rates of EMA as an essential maintenance subsidy for those who do not qualify for the full amount

- j. supporting an increase in the amount of students eligible for EMA, and a review into bonuses
- k. campaigning for differentiation of entitlement if you have more than one dependent in your household
- l. campaigning for an increase in the money available for Learner Support Fund

Heading: Equality & Diversity in the FE Curriculum

Conference believed:

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

Conference further believed:

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

Conference resolved:

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