



**nus** **trans**  
**CONFERENCE**

**Trans Students' Campaign  
Live Policy 2017 - 20**

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format contact NUS on 0845 5210 262  
or email [events@nus.org.uk](mailto:events@nus.org.uk)





## Purpose of this paper

This paper contains all the live policy for the Trans Campaign as agreed by Trans students' Conference 2015, 2016 and 2017. Policy agreed in 2015 will expire at conference 2018.

## Policy Lapse

### Policy Lapses in 2 circumstances:

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

Policy passed at Trans Conference 2014 will lapse at the end of Trans Conference 2017.

## What you need to do

If you are considering submitting policy to Trans 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, please contact [democracy@nus.org.uk](mailto:democracy@nus.org.uk).

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# Policy Passed at Trans' Conference 2017

## Welfare and Student Rights

### Motion 101: Trans Healthcare Mega Motion

#### **Trans Conference believes**

1. Gatekeeping is a widespread procedure used in the Gender Identity Clinics' process to stop trans people from receiving the healthcare they want.
2. In order to receive the appropriate healthcare such as hormones, hair removal, or surgery, service users often have to fulfill stereotypical expectations of femininity or masculinity. This disproportionately affects non-binary people.
3. Many patients have been denied healthcare due to mental health problems, which disproportionately affect trans people due to dysphoria and transphobia throughout society.
4. Despite trans people often receiving the worst healthcare experiences, trans issues are erased when talking about "LGBT(+) Health". In particular, trans issues are erased when it comes to "LGBT+ Sexual Health", with the high proportion of HIV+ transfeminine people not being recognised in the provision of services to those at high risk of being HIV+.
5. Practitioners in university and college counselling services often have no training on trans issues.

#### **Trans Conference further believes**

1. Trans people should not be expected to conform to gender stereotypes in order to access treatment.
2. Gender Identity Clinics should not hold the power to withhold or threaten access to healthcare for any of the reasons named above.
3. Trans people know best what treatment they want for themselves, and the only role the Gender Identity Clinic should play in the provision of treatment should be based on physical health concerns, such as pre-existing blood conditions.
4. The positive impact of counselling (and other forms of health and social care) can often be reduced if trans patients are subject to invasive questioning on the basis of their gender identity and unprofessional behaviour overall.
5. The long wait lists for gender identity clinics means that many trans people have to wait months, if not years, for simple forms of medical care. Bridging prescriptions for hormones should be more widely used until wait lists shorten following the tranvolution (trans revolution).

#### **Trans Conference resolves**

1. To campaign for more trans identifying representatives on the steering boards of GICs and GIC networks.
  2. To campaign for trans healthcare to run under an "informed consent" model: Meaning that after going through the medical risks of transition (including specific risks depending on the individual's health) with GIC staff, it is up to the trans person to decide whether they want to undergo treatment or not.
  3. To campaign for a de-pathologised informed consent model of trans healthcare with no gatekeeping
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4. To campaign for a de-centralised trans healthcare system so trans people do not have to travel far to centralised Gender Identity Clinics
  5. To work with trans organisations in Wales to build for a local gender identity service in Wales
  6. Advocate for higher funding and staffing levels (both clinical and administrative staff)
  7. Lobby for a review of administrative procedures - too many letters "lost in the post"
  8. Work with organisations like Action for Trans Health and the Trans Equality Legal Initiative to help advocate for the needs of trans patients.
  9. Affiliate the Trans Campaign to Action for Trans Health
  10. Support policies that would move towards greater patient involvement and control of trans healthcare.
  11. Work with the British Medical Association, GP Federations and Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure that GPs and secondary care providers understand that referrals to GICs/equivalents and entering into a shared care agreement is part of their primary care contract
  12. Work with the British Medical Association, GP Federations and Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure that GPs are trained in the work of trans healthcare.
  13. Lobby medical schools to include trans healthcare on the curriculum
  14. Work with groups like Sex:pression, Medsin, etc. to train healthcare students on the needs of trans patients.
  15. Provide a toolkit to LGBT+ Societies and local trans campaigns on how to teach medical school students about trans healthcare.
  16. Campaign for breast augmentation, facial feminisation surgery, body contouring to be included as part of core services within NHS gender identity care
  17. Request an equality impact assessment of gender care specifications to ensure that they are not transmisogynistic from NHS England, and equivalent bodies in the Nations.
  18. Campaign for a higher number of sessions of epilation to be available on the NHS as part of core services
  19. Campaign for gamete storage to become a core service of the NHS gender specification, this is a reproductive justice issue.
  20. Lobby the Human Embryology and Fertilisation Authority for greater training to its providers on trans issues
  21. Encourage the provision of speech and language therapy for trans patients that does not conform to ableist and classist notions of what people sound like.
  22. Lobby for greater inclusion of nonbinary people's healthcare needs as part of upcoming changes to gender care specifications
  23. Work with sexual health providers to ensure best practice on treating trans patients
  24. Lobby for hormone blockers to be provided at any age as appropriate, rather than just 16+
  25. Provide a toolkit explaining how students can navigate the trans healthcare system.
  26. Organise advocacy training sessions in unions and colleges to teach trans students how to advocate for themselves and their friends within the healthcare system.
  27. Offer trans training to the Patient Advice and Liaison Service.
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28. To lobby for information on HIV prevention and living with HIV to be inclusive of trans people, in particular transfeminine people and trans people of colour.
  29. To lobby for for sexual health clinics to assess the impact of sex segregated clinics on trans and non-binary patients.
  30. To lobby for counselling services at universities and colleges to be trans-inclusive.
  31. To campaign for bridging prescriptions to be made more widely available to trans students who are self-medicating with third-party obtained hormones or are at risk of doing so.

## **Motion 102: All Landlords Are B\_\_\_\_\_**

### **Trans Conference believes**

1. Rents are predicted to rise by 20% over the next 5 years, whilst the number of renters will increase by 25%
2. Student halls and private student lets are often let out at above market rents for properties which are often less than fabulous.
3. Often rents are set higher than student loans.
4. Between 2010 and 2014 alone, the social housebuilding budget was slashed from £2.3 billion to £1.1 billion, yet the government spent over £115 billion on subsidising the profits of private landlords through tax breaks, build-to-let schemes and housing benefit
5. Trans people face higher levels of estrangement from families, and higher levels of unemployment
6. Students in London and across the UK have been involved in successful rent strikes against dodgy landlords.
7. Trans people living in halls often feel uncomfortable with shared showers. En suite accommodation is usually more expensive, increasing costs trans people may need to pay for housing.

### **Trans Conference further believes**

1. Every person should have access to safe and affordable housing
2. That one of the most prescient sources of anxiety for trans students in halls are transphobic flatmates

### **Trans Conference resolves**

1. To actively build support for student rent strikes across the country
  2. To work with Student for Cooperation and other relevant organisations to organise for trans student housing cooperatives
  3. Work with the Radical Housing Network and similar organisations to help challenge landlord malpractice and resist evictions
  4. To provide a toolkit for SU Officers responsible for housing to facilitate Trans 101 training for students in halls.
  5. To lobby for staff who work in student accommodation i.e. administrative staff, security, cleaners, resident assistants to be trained in trans-inclusion
  6. Campaign for an increase in the budget for genuinely affordable social housing
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7. Campaign for student halls providers to provide trans students with en suite accommodation at the same price as non- en suite accommodation as a reasonable adjustment
  8. To provide guidance to university and college accommodation services advising against trans students being placed in single sex/gender accommodation without their explicit blessing, especially if they are placed in accommodation with students of a different gender.
  9. To advocate for trans and/or LGBT+ students to be given the choice of living in trans and/or LGBT+ only accommodation in university and college halls.

### **Motion 103: Ensure Campaigns Support Trans Students Who Care**

#### **Trans Conference believes**

1. Over 375,000 young adults identify as having a caring role, a carer is: anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support.
2. Many young adult carers cannot access higher education despite 84% of carers expressing a wish to go, 30% of young adult carers believed their caring role could impede access and performance in higher education.
3. No reliable statistics exist on the exact number of students with caring responsibilities let alone the number of Trans students who may also care.
4. As of September 2017 students will be asked if they identify, as a carer through UCAS- this information will then be passed onto individual universities.
5. Currently 7 universities within the UK have dedicated provisions and services for carers.

#### **Trans Conference further believes**

1. For universities and colleges to ensure clear measures and provisions exist within the access agreement for student's carers prior, during and at the immediate aftermath of their education. Such measures should include:
    - a. Financial support.
    - b. Targeted information including for student open days.
    - c. Career, employment and further education (including access to higher education, postgraduate and PhD studies) guidance
    - d. Mandatory training on carer awareness for teaching and support staff.
    - e. Having a carer support plan.
    - f. A named representative within the institution to work towards equality and diversity issues for students with caring responsibilities.
    - g. For university and college unions to ensure clear and specific provision for supporting students with caring responsibilities through issues including: governance, representation, welfare and social engagement.
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- h. Universities, colleges and unions should engage with organisations that support carers such as Carers Trust and engage with their campaign (Going Higher) to encourage more carers to pursue and complete further and higher education<sup>1</sup>

### **Trans Conference resolves**

1. To action the Trans officer to conduct research into the number of Trans student carers attending UK colleges and universities.
2. To explore what provisions already exist for students with caring responsibilities within UK colleges and universities.
3. For the Trans Students Campaign to network with other liberation campaigns and NUS leadership in addressing the needs of students with caring responsibilities.
4. To recognise carers week and carers rights day within the liberation calendar.
5. To create a student with caring responsibilities caucus within the NUS Trans Students Campaign.
6. To create a toolkit with and for Students' Unions to help them create an inclusive environment for students with caring responsibilities.
7. NUS to highlight issues, case studies and best practise in relation to students with caring responsibilities so that Students' Unions are more likely to organise around those issues.
8. To create a student with caring responsibilities representative to sit on NUS Trans Students Campaign Committee that is to be elected by the member of the students with caring responsibilities caucus.

### **Motion 104: For a Sensible Drug Policy**

#### **Trans Conference believes**

1. 24% of respondents to the Scottish Trans Mental Health Study said that they had taken drugs listed in the Misuse of Drugs Act.
2. Of those respondents, 5% and 18% felt their drug use was problematic or sometimes problematic respectively.
3. Testosterone preparations are listed under the Misuse of Drugs Act as a Class C drug when used without a prescription, meaning that some trans people who self medicating my face legal action.
4. Young people and students have much higher levels of drug use than their older and non-student counterparts.
5. There is very little data on trans drug use.
6. Students for Sensible Drug Policy is an organisation which campaigns for harm reduction and de-criminalisation of drug use.

#### **Trans Conference further believes**

1. The criminalisation of drug use disproportionately harms trans communities.
2. The criminalisation of drug use is not an effective means of countering addiction or abuse within these communities.

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<sup>1</sup> Carers Trust, 2015. Going Higher | Carers Trust [WWW Document]. URL <https://carers.org/going-higher>





## **Trans Conference resolves**

1. To commission research into trans student's drug use.
2. To work with Students for Sensible Drug Policy to encourage harm reduction across campuses and colleges.
3. To campaign for decriminalisation of drug use.
4. To lobby Clinical Commissioning Groups, the British Medical Association, Royal Pharmaceutical Society to encourage doctors and pharmacists to carry out bridging prescriptions and to increase training on bridging medications.
5. To lobby the government for an equality impact assessment on the Misuse of Drugs Act.

## **Zone: Strong and Active Unions**

### **Motion 201: Educate to liberate: Creating training and educational materials**

#### **Trans Conference believes**

1. Current live policy for the LBGT+ and Trans Campaigns references 'training' over 60 times throughout the policy document<sup>2</sup>.
2. Many pieces of live policy along with the NUS report 'Education Beyond the Straight and Narrow' recognise the importance of education and training on LGBT+ issues for spreading awareness and preventing ignorance<sup>34</sup>
3. Sex and relationship education does not include compulsory content on same-gender attraction, bisexuality (and other forms of multi-gender attraction) and ace-spec experiences.
4. Gender identity is currently not well covered, and not all aspects of gender identity and education on gender issues fit neatly under sex and relationship education.
5. Current NUS LGBT+ Resources (which includes resources for trans-inclusion) can be found on the NUS website, but NUS Connect is often difficult to navigate for visitors not used to using it

#### **Trans Conference further believes**

1. That the 'Campaign toolkits' and 'Research' arms of the LGBT+ campaign provide a good framework on which to build such training and educational resources.
2. That any educational and training resources should be accessible and adaptable enough to be utilised in a number of different situations, from FE to HE, and from training and informing elected officers and students in general to educating workers in academic institutions.

#### **Trans Conference resolves**

1. For the NUS Trans Campaign to work with the other liberation campaigns to lobby the Department of Education, large academy chains, local authorities and the National College for Teaching and Leadership to do the following:

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/resources/lgbt-students-campaign-live-policy-2014-17>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nus.org.uk/Global/lgbt-research.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/winning-for-students/lgbt>



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- a. Lobby for sex and relationships education in secondary schools to be inclusive of same-gender attracted people, bi and pan identities, ace-spec identities as well as being free of cissexism.
  - b. Lobby for PSHE classes in secondary schools to have content of different views of gender (including gendered inequalities) that are inclusive of the existence of trans people.
2. For the NUS to establish a working group to develop a set of training and education materials in relation to:
    - a. Healthy sex and relationships education on campus including same-gender attraction, multi-sexual attraction and ace-spec experiences and how there are specific intersections with different liberation groups.
    - b. The impact of gendered inequalities and different experiences of gender, which is inclusive of trans and non-binary issues.
  3. For the trans officer to encourage use of these materials within the NUS' Officer Development Programme.
  4. For the NUS to make these materials readily available so they can be used freely by students, institutions and educators.

## Zone: Society and Citizenship

### Motion 301: No Pride in Prisons

#### Trans Conference believes

1. There have been a number of recent deaths of trans prisoners who were being held in prison facilities that do not match up with the trans prisoner's gender.
  2. Many trans prisoners do not have access to gender affirming healthcare such as hormone treatment / surgeries, or access to gender appropriate clothing / wigs / prosthetics.
  3. The Conservative government are pursuing a campaign of building 5 new mega-prisons. One in Wrexham has just been constructed, and Manchester's is in its planning stage. These prisons will be large factory-prisons.
  4. The recidivism rate for jail leavers is currently 47.2%
  5. The cost of new prison places stand at £119,000. The cost of housing an individual prisoner is in excess of £40,000 annually.
  6. Data is not collected nationally on prisoner's trans status. However, it is likely that trans people are disproportionately policed and imprisoned as they are disproportionately represented in groups at risk of imprisonment.
  7. The Trans Equality Legal Initiative is a collective of lawyers and trans activists which seek to deliver access to justice for trans people, and often support trans prisoners.
  8. Action for Trans Health have a prisoner specific fund which gives small grants to trans prisoners to help them access healthcare and gender affirming clothing, etc.
  9. The Bent Bars Collective run a pen pal scheme for LGBTQ prisoners.
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### **Trans Conference further believes**

1. Denying trans prisoners access to healthcare or the right to gendered expression is a cruel and unusual punishment which punishes trans prisoners for their trans status and not any crimes they may have committed.
2. Trans liberation cannot happen within a prison society.
3. The "Justice" System is not power neutral. People from marginalised communities are more likely to end up in jail. Any extra space gained through prison expansion will be filled with trans, queer, BAME, disabled and working class prisoners.
4. The prison system is expensive and ineffective. Reparative justice offers a cheaper and less anti-social alternative to punitive justice.

### **Trans Conference resolves**

1. To work with the Trans Equality Legal Initiative, Action for Trans Health, and the Bent Bars Collective where appropriate to advocate and support trans prisoners.
2. To campaign against the expansion of the prison system, including the proposed Manchester mega-prison, and for an increase of funding into reparative justice and other alternatives to prison.
3. To adopt prison abolition as an official stance of the NUS Trans Campaign
4. Advocate for trans prisoners in accessing primary and secondary healthcare.
5. Campaign for halting and reverse cuts to benefits and mental health care in order to reduce recidivism and the need for policing.

### **Motion 302: Gender has no borders**

#### **Trans Conference believes**

1. Trans asylum seekers, when detained in a removal centre, are often placed in the wrong gender estate or kept in solitary confinement against the recommendations of the Shaw Report
2. Many trans asylum seekers come from home countries where trans healthcare is not available.
3. For immigration purposes, the Home Office uses outdated and Eurocentric terms to discuss trans identity

#### **Trans Conference resolves**

1. To provide practical support for trans asylum seekers where possible
  2. To campaign against the deportation of trans asylum seekers using a variety of campaign tools such as social media, direct action, lobbying relevant authorities, etc.
  3. To encourage the UKBA to not detain trans asylum seekers in removal centres as per the recommendations of the Shaw Report
  4. To lobby the Home Office for a review of language and immigration policy related to trans people
  5. To campaign for no borders.
  6. Work with the Trans Equality Legal Initiative to support and promote appropriate legal action which would be helpful for trans asylum seekers.
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## Motion 303: No Pride in the Police

### Trans Conference believes

1. The police disproportionately target trans people, along with sex workers, working class communities and communities of colour for policing, leading to an increase in those groups in the prison population.
2. Many trans people have faced mistreatment and violence at the hands of the police.
3. The criminal justice system as currently constituted has many negative impacts on trans people, including but not limited to:
  - a. Trans people being charged under the wrong names
  - b. The transphobic practice of prosecuting 'sex by deception' when trans people do not reveal their gender assigned at birth to prospective sexual partners.
  - c. The state harassment of sex workers, a group which trans people (in particular trans women) disproportionately belong to.

### Trans Conferences further believes

1. Justice must be conceptualised as being outside the state-sanctioned criminal justice system, as the state can 'justly' inflict a great deal of legal harm on trans people.
2. Trans people are often the victims of hate crime. When it is reported to the police, which many trans people do not due to the chance of transphobic harassment, often it is not taken seriously.

### Trans Conference resolves

1. To not work or collaborate with the police.
2. To encourage Prides to not have a police presence as part of parades, especially Pride events organised by students' unions.
3. To support and organise actions against police presence at Prides.
4. To campaign to abolish the transphobic practice of prosecuting 'sex by deception' cases where trans people have chosen not to reveal their birth assignment to prospective sexual partners.

# Policy Passed at Trans' Conference 2018

## Zone: Education Zone

### Motion 101: Freeing Education

#### Conference believes

1. Free Education was once the norm in the UK.
  2. In 1998 Labour introduced tuition fees of £1,000 a year, which tripled in their second term despite election promises not to do so.
  3. In 2010, the Conservative/Lib-Dem Coalition made it possible for universities to charge up to £9,000 per year, despite a Lib-Dem pledge not to do so.
  4. Grants for living expenses were also the norm in the United Kingdom, before they were made means-tested and eventually scrapped in favour of maintenance loans.
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5. Funding for FE has also been destabilized with the introduction of private providers and threats to government funds.
  6. Education Maintenance Allowance – paid to 16 to 19 year-olds in education or unpaid work-based learning - was also scrapped in 2010.
  7. According to NUS research, Disabled Students worry more about their financial circumstances and debt than other students.
  8. Disabled Students' Allowance has been cut, meaning disabled students either have to pay to access the assistive technology they need or risk dropping out due to lack of adjustments.
  9. International students could never access DSA and the system is convoluted for post-graduates and others
  10. Trans students are more likely to live in poverty, and therefore more likely to be priced out of education as a result of fees and inadequate financial support.
  11. Trans students are also more likely experience homelessness and poor quality housing, which can have huge negative implications on a person's wellbeing and academic performance.
  12. The marketisation of education disproportionately cuts queer-related courses (such as Gender & Sexuality modules) and erases the contributions of trans and queer academics, even when they could be useful for contextualising their ideas.
  13. The content being taught to medical students is not fit for purpose in relation to trans healthcare. The pathologization of trans bodies and experience is often furthered through misinformation, or trans issues are left completely ignored within the curriculum. This has material impact on the experiences of future trans patients and must be addressed.
  14. Free education is a trans liberation demand.

### **Conference further believes**

1. Tuition fees and the cost of student living is rising, despite government promises.
  2. Education is a right, not a privilege; nobody should be denied access to it because of their background, identity or ability to pay.
  3. Education is also a public good; allowing society to progress, individuals to fulfill their potential, and the economy to grow.
  4. Proposals to replace tuition fees with a 'graduate tax' are simply replacing one form of student debt with another – where payments for education are deducted from pay-slips over a lifetime.
  5. Disabled students face barriers in education because of inaccessible learning environments and the prejudice of others, and this is being compounded by financial barriers.
  6. A quality education system can be paid for through public funds by tackling tax evasion and avoidance and imposing progressive taxation.
  7. Education must be of an inclusive nature for all students
  8. Our education system must be free, accessible, and liberated - from the content we are being taught to the way in which we learn.
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9. Student worker solidarity should be at the heart of the movement for free education, as marketisation exists in a wider political landscape of austerity that treats workers as disposable and our education as a commodity.

### **Conference resolves**

1. To oppose all methods and proposals to charge students for their education
2. To support and inform student officers and activists in campaigns for Free Education
3. To continue to fight against cuts to public and campus services
4. To stand in solidarity with other groups detrimented by austerity in education, including women, Disabled, LGBT and Black students, and student parents and carers.
5. To continue to campaign to reinstate and improve DSA
6. To campaign for a new form of DSA which is fit for purpose and available international and post-graduate students
7. To be a voice within the Free Education movement that recognizes:
  - a. It's not just about scrapping tuition fees;
  - b. It's not just about undergraduates;
  - c. It's not just about students from the UK;
  - d. And it's not about giving rich kids more money – it's about liberating education;
  - e. Promote inclusive education practice.
8. To advocate for trans competency training for medical students, lead and delivered by trans people.
9. To empower trans students to provide this training to med schools on their campus.
10. To commit resources, time, and energy to supporting all industrial action within education that aligns with our value of a free, accessible, and liberated education system. This includes, but is not limited to, the UCU Pensions Strike.

### **Motion 102: Gender? sounds fake but ok**

#### **Conference believes**

1. If an applicant changes their name during their studies prior to completing their award and final results have been published, they must provide the university with documentary evidence of the name change
  2. Currently, universities require applicants to apply using the name on their passport, birth certificate or marriage certificate
  3. As of August 2015, the Oxford English Dictionary officially added "Mx" as an honorific, which is already accepted by some government departments, councils, high street banks, Royal Mail and driving licences in the UK
  4. 1. Many institutions believe that a gender recognition certificate is required to change one's registered gender, which is false. This is particularly the case for graduation certificates which many trans students struggle to be changed retrospectively.
  5. 2. The use of titles is much more liberal than many people think they are. There is no legal prohibition on choosing your own title.
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3. The cost of changing your name and title on government-recognised forms of ID such as passports and drivers licenses can be prohibitive.

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Many students are unable to change their name legally, due to personal circumstances, i.e. not being out to families
2. Students in FE institutions often have a difficult time trying to change their name, as often they require two names on the system – the name they want to be referred as, and their birth name for when letters are sent home
3. Mx is a prefix that allows non-binary students who do not identify within the gender binary to have their gender identity recognized
4. Being able to easily change your name, gender and title should be easy and require little to no legal documentation.
5. Some Universities and Colleges who do allow Trans students to change names and prefixes on the system currently, require those students to wait up to a year for the change to be reflected on systems and registers.

#### **Conference resolves**

1. Provide FE and HE institutions with guidelines on how to implement trans inclusive name, gender and title changes, including a variety of titles and gender markers.
2. Encourage unions to allow students in all FE and HE institutions to have a preferred name for academic registries
3. Encourage all HE and FE institutions to recognise the existence of trans (including non-binary students) and their needs, as well as allow students to change the name in which letters are sent home to families as to give control to trans students over who they are out as trans to.
4. Encourage unions to add Mx as a title options for all HE and FE institution
5. Encourage institutions to offer pastoral and financial support to trans students who wish to change a variety of documents (including but not limited to passports and drivers licenses).
6. Mandate the Trans Committee to fight alongside local activists against institutional policies which require Trans students to wait before a name/prefix change goes through.
7. Provide resources/toolkits for activists to enable them to effectively challenge bad name-change policy at their institutions, and win for students locally.

#### **Motion 103: For an abolitionist curriculum**

##### **Conference believes**

1. The UK has the highest prison population in Western Europe.
  2. Prisons are a costly and ineffective method of resolving conflicts in the community. A prison place costs in excess of £40m per year, with high rates of reoffending.
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3. Restorative justice is an alternative approach to the prison system which emphasises mediation, community support mechanisms, and challenging systemic oppression. It has the highest rate of victim satisfaction and offender accountability.
  4. There has recently been a suggestion that a non-binary prison is created in Scotland.

#### **Conference further believes**

1. There is no such thing as the “right” prison for someone - prisons are inherently places of trauma and violence.
2. Restorative justice is well-supported in public policy and is a more ethical form of justice, but not many people know about it meaning it has little public support. It is often excluded from law, criminology, and related courses.

#### **Conference resolves**

1. For the Trans Campaign to support, with both time and money, a cross-liberation campaign of creating an abolitionist syllabus (with workshops) providing information around the prison industrial complex and abolitionist alternatives to prison system. This should include trans and queer perspectives.
2. To campaign for law, criminology, social work, and other related courses to include abolitionist perspectives within their course content.
3. To encourage Trans / LGBT+ societies to run workshops with their members to learn more about prison abolition and restorative justice.

## **Zone: Society and Citizenship Zone**

### **Motion 201: Disability and Sex and Relationship Education**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is an essential part of education and development.
2. Disabled people can have fulfilling sexual and romantic relationships.

#### **Conference further believes**

1. People with developmental, social or intellectual disabilities have less (if any) access to SRE than non-disabled peers.
  2. That inclusive SRE is something that all unions should be providing.
  3. Access to inclusive SRE for disabled people is further impacted by their intersections such as being LGBT+, Black, Trans, a student of faith
  4. Due to de-sexualisation of disabled people and exclusion from SRE, it is an area poorly researched
  5. Over 50% of disabled people do not have any sexual relationship at all
  6. Disabled students who are asexual and/or aromantic can often be erased in campaigns for more inclusive SRE. This is made worse by the need to combat the erroneous belief that all disabled people are asexual.
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### **Conference resolves**

1. NUS Trans Campaign will provide information to unions on how to advise disabled Trans students on matters relating to sex and relationships (such as the existence of adaptive equipment).
2. NUS Trans Campaign to create resources on educating student carers or service users (whether under social care or cared for by family/friends) on the legalities surrounding carers and sex, with specific emphasis on rights of Trans disabled service users
3. NUS Trans Campaign to ensure that the work of their campaign on SRE are disability inclusive
4. NUS Trans Campaign to be open to working with 3rd parties i.e. Sexpression in promoting DSRE (Disabled Sex and Relationships Education)
5. NUS Trans Campaign to encourage NUS Extra to work with companies who sell adaptive equipment enabling mobility impaired people to have fulfilling sexual relationships.
6. To ensure that any SRE resources provided by the campaign are inclusive of asexual and aromantic identities, whilst not reinforcing society's asexualisation of disabled people.

### **Motion 202: Always Antifascist**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Fascist organisation and the legitimisation of fascist ideology is on the rise, in elections, on the streets and on our campuses.
2. The co-opting of LGBT+ issues by fascists is becoming increasingly common, and this is often co-signed (either implicitly or explicitly) by LGBT+ people who blame people of colour and Muslims for LGBT+phobias.
3. Trans Jews, Muslims, and QTPOC are especially threatened by the growing presence of the far-right.
4. The responsibility of organising against fascists on campus is often shifted onto the most marginalised students whose right to freedoms such as political organising itself is challenged and denied by fascists.
5. As a result of this, much student anti-fascist work is reactive as opposed to preventative.
6. The NUS has an Anti-Racism Anti Fascism (ARAF) Campaign which is funded from the Cross liberation budget - a budget shared between all 5 liberation campaigns. Out of this budget also comes any cross-liberation work, such as last year's liberation activist training days.
7. The Cross-liberation budget in the year 2017-2018 has been halved in comparison to previous years.

#### **Conference further believes**

1. There is an atmosphere of moral panic in the media around the use of no platforming as a tactic, but it remains an effective means of preventing fascists from spreading their propaganda on our campuses.
  2. The right-wing Tory government and the Office for Students' prioritisation of maintaining "free speech" at universities often justifies the facilitation of violent fascist and transmisogynistic ideology that has material implications on the welfare and safety of students. This concern for "free speech" is hypocritical whilst they remain implementers of the racist Prevent duty.
  3. Fascism has no place on our campuses and all action against it is justified.
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4. It is vital that we constantly act in solidarity with - and acknowledge the unique struggles of - LGBT+ and Trans Jews, Muslims, and QTIPoC students.
  5. Fighting fascism is a collective responsibility of the entire student movement. As such, costs associated with campaigning against fascism should not exclusively be put on liberation groups.
  6. Fighting fascism cannot be done without fighting casual racism, Islamophobia and antisemitism within our communities. As such, it is especially upon white, non-Muslim and/or non-Jewish people to challenge attitudes that foster a culture in which fascism can thrive.
  7. While fighting fascists on the street is necessary, challenging it in our communities is vitally important to stop fascism quietly thriving.

### **Conference resolves**

1. To support the organising of anti-fascist groups and actions on campuses where possible.
2. To run workshops at appropriate NUS Trans campaign events on Trans led anti-fascist organising
3. To take a strong and principled stance against fascism and work with the Anti-Racism AntiFascism committee to educate students about the dangers of fascism and enable them to take action against fascism on their campuses.
4. For the NUS Trans campaign to bring a motion to NUS National Conference supporting an increase in budget for the NUS Anti-Racism Anti Fascism Campaign as a separate and distinct budget from the Cross-Liberation budget. The Cross-Liberation budget should not be cut.
5. To continue to no platform fascist groups and to encourage individual student unions to do the same.
6. To support organising against the institutional and individual compliance to Prevent duty.
7. Produce materials on challenging racist, Islamophobic and antisemitic attitudes from members of liberation community groups, family members and friendship groups.
8. Distribute NUS LGBT+ Campaign materials on QTIPoC inclusion.

### **Motion 203: Supporting student sex workers**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Sex work refers (but not limited) to escorting, lap dancing, stripping, pole dancing, pornography, webcams, adult modelling, phone sex, and selling sex.
  2. The current regime of austerity, and cuts to services and support have disproportionately affect trans women, trans migrants and trans people of colour.
  3. Whilst sex work is not illegal in the UK it is still criminalised, sex workers who work on the street can be picked up on soliciting or anti-social behavioural order charges, and sex workers who work together indoors for safety can be charged with brothel keeping.
  4. The rise in living costs, debt, the increase in tuition fees, and the slashing of benefits for disabled people, it is highly likely that some students do sex work alongside their studies in order to get from month to month.
  5. Regardless of the reasons for entering into sex work, sex workers of all backgrounds deserve to have their rights protected.
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6. The Student Sex Worker Project shows us that at least one in twenty students have engaged in sex work.<sup>5</sup>
  7. Transgender Europe's recent report declares that 88% of murdered trans people in Europe are sex workers.<sup>6</sup>
  8. Expulsion of or disciplining student sex workers for their involvement in sex work is counterproductive to their goals, safety and wellbeing.
  9. "Outing" or letting others know about a student's status as a sex worker without their consent puts the student at great risk of harm, and is a form of harassment. "Whorephobia" is defined as the fear or hatred of sex workers, and can include using slurs against sex workers, excluding sex workers from societies or events, purposefully silencing the voices of sex workers, aggressively arguing for criminalisation or for the Nordic model without inclusion of current sex workers themselves, and maliciously outing a sex worker with intent to cause discipline or harm.

### **Conference further believes**

1. The pushes for legislation which would criminalise the purchase of sex (and introduce what is known as the 'Nordic Model') are often spearheaded by anti-choice, anti-trans, right-wing fundamentalists and radical exclusionary feminists.
2. Often, legislation of this kind is brought forward in the name of anti-trafficking programmes, when in reality they are laws which aim to control what people can and can't do with their own bodies, combined with dangerous anti-immigration initiatives.
3. Criminalising the purchase of sex puts sex workers, especially those who work on the street, in danger.
4. Decriminalisation reduces police abuse, harassment and violence against sex workers.
5. Organisations that support the decriminalisation of sex work include the World Health Organisation, UN Women, Amnesty International, the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, Human Rights Watch, NUS Women's Campaign.
6. Decriminalisation would ensure that sex workers feel able to report unsafe clients or violence at work without the worry of criminal repercussions, and that those who wish to leave the sex industry are not left with criminal records as a result of their job.

### **Conference resolves**

1. The NUS Trans campaign will support and campaign for the full decriminalisation of sex work.
2. To support sex worker led organisations, such as the English Collective of Prostitutes, SWARM, Sex Workers Alliance Ireland, and SCOT-PEP, who work to improve the lives of sex workers across the UK and beyond.
3. To campaign against any attempted to introduce the Nordic Model in the UK

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.thestudentsexworkproject.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/TSSWP-Research-Summary-English.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://transrespect.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/TvT-PS-Vol16-2017.pdf>



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4. To support student sex workers being threatened with disciplinary action based solely or in part due to their status as a sex worker.
  5. To support student sex workers that are being outed, targeted, faced with whorephobia or harassed in the university for their status as sex workers.

#### **Motion 204: "No Title Submitted"**

##### **Conference believes**

1. Chemsex (the practice of engaging in sexual activity in conjunction with substances such as meth, GHB and mephedrone) is increasingly common, especially in urban areas. Primarily engaged in by LGBT+ people, chemsex can facilitate risky sexual behaviour that is likely to have negative physical and health implications.
2. Stigma and a lack of readily available and relevant resources enforce unhealthy habits relating to sex and relationships within the trans community.
3. Trans people in particular face barriers when accessing sexual health services and education due to the intensely cissexist nature of services available, and are therefore likely to avoid accessing services and getting tested altogether.
4. Conference further believes
5. Relevant topics such as chemsex, HIV prevention and treatment (especially for trans women and transfeminine people), gender dysphoria, saunas as well as the fact that many trans people do not desire sex must be explored in SRE.

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

1. Relevant topics such as chemsex, HIV prevention and treatment (especially for trans women and transfeminine people), gender dysphoria, saunas as well as the fact that many trans people do not desire sex must be explored in SRE.
2. Positivity about sex and relationships often erases asexual and aromantic-spectrum experiences, but sex and relationship education is not inherently harmful to ace or aro people. Some ace and aro people do engage in sex and resources should acknowledge this.
3. Fetishisation is an increasingly common experience for trans people. Trans people can be viewed as an "inbetween" by cis people and thus non-consensually sexualised and pursued. This alienates trans people within the wider community and means we can feel less comfortable accessing sexualised LGBT+ spaces.

##### **Conference resolves**

1. To advocate for inclusive, non-stigmatising, non-pathologising, and not sensationalist SRE that meets our community's diverse needs within education.
  2. To work with the NUS LGBT+ campaign to produce guidance on this.
  3. To train trans students to lead trans sensitivity and competence training to SRE providers.
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## Zone: Strong and Active Unions Zone

### Motion 301: Campaigning for and training on Sport Inclusivity

#### Conference believes

1. Every student should have equal opportunities to participate in Sport while at HE and FE level should they wish to.
2. Within the sporting environment, there is still an ongoing exclusion and discrimination of disabled people.
3. This exclusion is often further exacerbated by attitudes towards individuals defining as LGBTQ.
4. Often the mandatory Equal Opportunities training at different unions does not stress factors relating to impairment well, or at all. Having an injured player as part of a team is not the same as a disabled team member.
5. Many trans students are unable to participate in sporting activities at university at all due to discriminatory guidelines set by sporting governing bodies.
6. BUCS, the organisation governing many university sporting activities, recommends that trans students' inclusion is decided by a sport's governing body, and in the case that no policy exists, that the international federation requirements apply.
7. Regardless of BUCS, institutions often must abide by governing bodies' policies in order to access resources vital to the sport, including referees.
8. The Football Association's policy, for example, requires annual verification that players' testosterone levels have been within the natal male range for trans men, or the natal female range for trans women, 'for an appropriate length of time'.<sup>7</sup>
9. The International Olympic Committee's guidelines, used in the aforementioned case where a national governing body lacks relevant policy, requires trans athletes to have undergone genital surgery, undergone hormone treatments for at least two years, and received legal recognition of their transitioned sex.
10. Trans women are particularly marginalised in sporting environments with policies from institutions (such as BUCS, the RFU, and the FA) having unreasonable demands for trans women athletes.
11. The IOC guidelines specifically target trans women and other who experience transmisogyny with strict rules that are difficult to comply with at university or college given access to transition related healthcare.
12. Disabled trans students form an integral part of the trans students' movement.
13. That Non-Binary students are often completely excluded from sport on campuses, by both BUCS and sports unions alike, and that this is extremely harmful for athletic non-binary people who end up participating in teams they feel they don't belong to, having to conform with a gender that doesn't align with their identity and experience.
14. Non-binary students may be implicitly and explicitly excluded from HE/FE sport due to the binary gendered nature of the majority of sports.

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/policies/equality/lgbt-football>





### **Conference resolves**

1. Greater training needs to be delivered to Student Unions on Equal Opportunities, emphasising the need of inclusive team opportunities.
2. The Trans campaign should highlight possibilities to Student Unions of how to make HE/FE sport more inclusive, as well as offering support to trans students who want to get involved with sport.
3. This training should also include training on how injuries differ from impairments, highlighting the importance of access needs to the sports centres or competition locations.
4. The NUS Trans campaign will release guidance to Students Unions on how to make sport more inclusive and a discrimination free environment.
5. This guidance to contain information on the needs of disabled trans students, including on gendered sports teams and changing rooms, and an explanation of the legal situation of disabled trans students who wish to compete.
6. The NUS Trans Campaign to work with the NUS Disabled Students' Campaign to publicly condemn BUCS for this policy and lobby for the adoption of trans-inclusive policies, giving trans students the right to compete as their genders.
7. To encourage students' union's to work with trans activists and follow the NUS's guidelines on trans inclusivity to ensure that each institution has their own policy for trans athletes.
8. To raise awareness of the impact that transmisogynistic policies have on trans women's access to sport.
9. Fight for the inclusion of Non-Binary people within sports, on campuses and at BUCS level.
10. Actively work towards ending gender-segregation in student sport.
11. The NUS Trans Campaign to also lobby national sport governing bodies, such as the FA, to which HE/FE institutions are affiliated, to adopt trans-inclusive policies, at least with regard to HE/FE level sport.
12. To encourage HE/FE institutions and Students' Unions to provide more gender-neutral sports, and gender-neutral teams within existing sports.

### **Motion 302: Cofiwch fi**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Nations refers to the politically autonomous counterparts of NUS UK, including: NUS Wales, NUS Scotland, and NUS-USI
2. Each nation has an equivalent LGBT+ campaign with at least one LGBT+ Officer, but not all currently have a trans campaign
3. Each nations LGBT+ officer sits on the national NUS LGBT+ committee, but there is not currently guaranteed nations representation on the trans committee

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Although each nations liberation campaign differs in its budget, none are large enough to carry out the intentions of the campaign, especially with no currently allocated funds for a trans campaign in all the
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nations, when also having to pay for:

- a. Travel
  - b. Accommodation
  - c. Conference costs
2. Nations committees are comparatively smaller than national committee, meaning the amount the committee and officer/s can logistically accomplish is less, due to financial issues, delegation, and available resources
  3. Due to different legislation in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland from England, resources cannot be used if translation of NUS UK resources has not been made

### **Conference resolves**

1. To ensure the translation of all NUS UK Trans Campaign resources so that they can be used in the nations
2. To assist nations officers where possible, including:
  - a. Helping out with motions/campaigns they are unable to complete alone
  - b. If not able to physically help, financially supporting the different nations' campaign
  - c. Ensuring the national committee support nations campaigning, either through social media or presence at events
  - d. Ensuring nations needs are not comprised for campaigning issues around location and distance
  - e. That the elected trans officer and committee visit and help out at each nation where feasible to do so

### **Motion 303: Keep the T**

#### **Conference believes**

1. There have been numerous students unions establishing an autonomous Trans Officer / Trans Campaign, this should be applauded.
2. Some unions have, at the same time, changed the LGBT+ Officerships / Campaigns to be "LGB+".
3. In some cases this has led to LGB+ spaces becoming transphobic and transmisogynistic

#### **Conference further believes**

1. The LGB+ and Trans communities have a shared history of struggle
2. The LGB+ and Trans communities have a shared oppression, that based on how gender norms are used to police people's behaviour.
3. In it in the interests of both LGB+ and Trans people to continue to organise together

#### **Conference resolves**

1. To encourage member unions to keep the LGB+ and T together, whilst still having Trans autonomous spaces.

To work with the LGBT+ Campaign to produce a best practice guide for how unions can implement a trans officer / campaign





## Zone: Rules Revision Zone

### Motion 401: A committee fit for purpose

#### Conference believes

1. That the Standing Orders of the NUS Trans Campaign were most based on those of the NUS LGBT+ Campaign.
2. Committee members cost a high proportion of the NUS Trans Campaign's budget (including the Campaign's budget and the Conference budget) each year. These costs include a delegation fee for each committee member, travel to and from conference, the cost of travelling to and from training, the cost of travelling to and from in person committee meetings, the cost of sending committee members to events.
3. We currently have an ace rep, a bi rep and a poly rep as a result of these being in the NUS LGBT+ Campaign.
4. We do not currently have any guaranteed representation for those who experience transmisogyny or international students.

#### Conference further believes

1. The NUS Trans Campaign has different needs to the NUS LGBT+ Campaign. It is therefore unsuitable to have a committee structure based on the latter.
2. Adding a committee member doesn't necessarily mean more inclusion for that group. Many committee members fail to submit reports, and many struggle to accomplish much as volunteers with few funds.
3. We do not need individual ace, bi and/or poly reps on NUS Trans Committee. That representation already exists on NUS LGBT+ Committee (who explicitly represents these groups in the existing committee), and we can use our resources more effectively.
4. We need representation of those who experience transmisogyny and xenophobia.

#### Conference resolves

1. That the following shall be the NUS Trans Committee:
  - a. Trans Officer
  - b. NEC 2nd place
  - c. Open place
  - d. Anti-transmisogyny place
  - e. Non-binary place
  - f. Disabled place
  - g. Trans and/or non-binary people of colour place (open)
  - h. Trans and/or non-binary people of colour place (anti-transmisogyny)
  - i. LGB+ place
  - j. International students and migrants place
  - k. NUS Scotland Trans Officer (elected at NUS Scotland Trans Conference)



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2. That in the absence of an elected Trans Officer in NUS Wales and NUS-USI, elected trans representatives in NUS Wales and NUS-USI LGBT+ Campaign's shall be invited as non-voting observers to NUS Trans Committee events at the discretion of the Trans Officer. Once/if NUS Trans Officers are instituted in NUS Wales and NUS-USI, they shall be entitled to be represented on the committee as full voting members.
  3. That caucuses should elected all of the spaces that are reserved for a particular group.
  4. If the NUS Trans Officer does not experience transmisogyny, then the NEC 2nd place must.
  5. That NUS Trans Conference will not be limited to one day.

### **Motion 402: An ACE-ceptional committee**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Ace is an umbrella term encompassing all identities on the asexual and aromantic spectrum, including but not limited to:
  - a. Asexual
  - b. Demisexual
  - c. Gray-asexual
  - d. Aromantic
  - e. Demiromantic
  - f. gray-aromantic

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Ace people make up 1% of the population
2. The current standing orders states an asexual representative which excludes aromantic spectrum individuals as well as those within the spectrum of asexuality

#### **Conference resolves**

1. Delete and replace:

22 The Agenda

J. asexual students' caucus

With:

22 The Agenda

J. ace students' caucus

To add under 'Caucuses', after 29, renumbering as necessary:





30. Ace students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the campaign who experience limited or no attraction (sexual or romantic). This includes (but is not limited to) students who identify as asexual, demisexual, gray-asexual, aromantic, demiromantic, and gray-aromantic.

### **Motion 403: Non-Binary Inclusivity**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Gender is not Binary. Having women's specific places does not imply that all people who are not women are therefore men.
2. Non-binary is an umbrella, not a single gender identity. Some non-binary individuals include 'woman' and/or 'man' in their gender identity, and some do not.
3. Non-binary individuals face discrimination and marginalisation on the basis of their gender.
4. Without making inclusion explicit, feelings of exclusion can arise and last for long periods of time.
5. Last year at Trans Conference there were complaints about misgendering and individuals assuming the pronouns of others.
6. All trans students, including non-binary students, should have their pronouns respected, and not have to encounter transphobia and/or misgendering, especially within trans spaces.
7. Transmisogyny refers to the specific oppression faced by trans women and some nonbinary people.
8. The majority of the Trans Campaign's elected leadership is nonbinary. Whilst non-binary people face specific oppressions in society, it should be applauded that they are currently well represented within the Trans Campaign.
9. Gender balancing is a tool to ensure that delegations and committees have reserved places for people from under-represented and undersupported groups within the campaign.
10. Within the trans campaign, there is a lack of representation and involvement of students who experience transmisogyny, and no specific caucus, spaces, or representatives for those who experience it.
11. The campaign should continue to not discriminate on the grounds of sexual identity.
12. That an individual's pronouns may be different with different people, and that Steering cannot require someone to state their pronouns to Conference, and that stating your pronouns should not be a requirement to speak at Conference.

#### **Conference further believes**

1. The gender identity of non-binary individuals, including non-binary women, is not "complex", and should not be labelled as such.
  2. Non-binary individuals should not automatically be grouped with men unless they include 'man' in their gender identity, and they wish to be included in such a group.
  3. Non-binary individuals should not automatically be grouped with women unless they include 'woman' in their gender identity, and they wish to be included in such a group.
  4. Non-binary voices should be heard within trans spaces, and non-binary individuals should not be made to feel excluded from these spaces. Hence it is important that it is made clear and explicit that non-binary individuals are welcomed and included.
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5. Some pronouns, ie. they, ze, xe, etc., are often considered “gender neutral” as they do not refer to a binary gender position. However, this does not mean they are neutral in the true sense, and many people find “they” or similar being used about them to be de-gendering.
  6. Using appropriate gender neutral language and avoiding pronoun use altogether to refer to people whose gender is unknown can be useful, ie. “the delegate over there”, or “the person in a red hat”.
  7. Individuals should be encouraged to ask the pronouns of others, and not use pronouns to refer to a person until a person’s pronoun is learned, as outlined above.
  8. The Steering Committee are responsible for the smooth running of conference democracy.
  9. Transphobia and misgendering are code of conduct issues and should be dealt with through the proper channels. This is not the responsibility of steering.

### **Conference resolves**

1. To add under the Jargon Guide and Interpretation:
    - a. “Non-Binary Members – The Members of the Campaign who self-define any part of their gender identity under the non-binary umbrella, and those questioning whether part and/or all of their gender identity falls under the non-binary umbrella”
  2. To replace:
    - a. “2. The aims of the 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 action in favour of any disadvantaged section of society shall be permissible.”with
    - b. “2. The aims of the Campaign shall be pursued without regard to race, sex, sexual orientation, sexual identity, romantic orientation, gender identity, disability, ethnic origin, religion, age or creed, independent of any party-political organisation or religious body; but positive action in favour of any disadvantaged section of society shall be permissible.”
  3. Delete Section 22.e of the Standing orders (the section which creates a women’s caucus) and replace with:
    - i. 22e. Anti-transmisogyny caucus
  4. Replace
    - a. 24 “Women’s Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as women, including (if they wish) those with complex gender identities which include ‘woman’ and/or the existing Women’s Place Representatives.”with
    - b. “Anti Transmisogyny caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who experience transmisogyny, and the current Anti-Transmisogyny reps. For the avoidance of doubt, transmisogyny is a specific oppression faced by people who are either trans women or non-binary people whose gender includes woman or is woman-aligned who were not assigned female at birth.”
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5. To add in the Standing Orders, after 73, under 'General Procedure and Quorum', renumbering as necessary:
    - a. 74. Speakers at Conference shall be required to give their name, and Constituent Member or Committee position, prior to their speech."
  6. To ensure that the Trans Campaign's delegates to NEC meetings are gender balanced. This should be interpreted as ensuring that at least one of the Trans Officer and NEC second place experiences transmisogyny.
  7. To mandate that Trans Conference should not be limited to just one day.
  8. To Replace
    - a. 13. Each CM may send up to five (5) delegates, consisting of one Open Place, one Non-Binary Students' place, one Women's place, one Black Student's Place and one Disabled Student's Place. All of these delegates must self-define as Trans.  
with
    - b. 13. Each CM may send up to five (5) delegates, consisting of one Open Place, one place for people experiencing transmisogyny, one person of colour place, a disabled place, and one non-binary place. All of these delegates must self-define as Trans. A delegation of four or more must have at least two people who experience transmisogyny.
  9. To Replace
    - a. 14. In years where financial incentives for unions to bring their maximum entitlement of black and women's places are not possible, the delegation entitlement may be adapted by steering to ensure the maximum entitlement of black or women's places by removing any of non-binary, and/or open place from some or all CM's entitlements from that year to ensure that black and women's delegates attendance is a priority  
with
    - b. 14. In exceptional circumstances, the delegation entitlement may be adapted by steering to ensure the maximum number of people from under-represented groups can be delegated to conference.

## **Motion 404: Accessibility of Conference**

### **Conference believes**

1. Last year at various NUS Liberation Conferences, including Trans Conference, there were numerous complaints regarding inaccessibility, with Conference overrunning into access breaks, and a high noise level.
2. For Conference to be democratic and representative, it must be accessible to all delegates.
3. Ableism in any form should be prevented and not tolerated.

### **Conference further believes**

1. Regular access breaks are vital for improving accessibility, and should not be run into or ignored.
  2. BSL applause is vital for ensuring accessibility. It should not be referred to as "jazz hands", and should be used throughout conference once requested by any Member present.
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3. Steering Committee are responsible for the scheduling and smooth running of conference, hence it is extremely important that the voices of disabled students are heard on the committee, to ensure conference is made as accessible as possible.

4. Elections should be fair and democratic. If an individual would, for accessibility reasons, be unfairly represented by publicly speaking at conference during their election, arrangements should be made to ensure they are not discriminated against.

5. A high noise level is inaccessible, and can make it harder to follow the events of conference. This prevents individuals from being able to fully take part in the democratic processes of conference, and is inherently undemocratic.

6. It is important that Members present at conference should be able to leave at any time, and feel able to do so.

7. That in order to be accessible elections should abide by the following principles:

- a. For all Trans Committee posts, Members of Conference may be assisted by their enabler or by other individual(s) in the process of gathering nominations.
  - b. Candidates for the election to any post, except Trans Officer posts, shall be invited to give a one-minute speech during the process of their election. Candidates may, for access requirements, request this time limit be made flexible, in which case, no defined time limit shall apply. After two minutes, the chair for that election shall have the discretion to request that the speech be ended.
  - c. Candidates for the election to any post, except Trans Officer posts, may request to stand by proxy for access requirements, in which case they may submit a written statement of no more than 200 words for that election, which shall be read out on their behalf by the chair for that election, in place of a speech.
  - d. There shall be a space on nomination forms for all voluntary positions allowing candidates to declare any access requirements for their election. There shall be a box for candidates to tick if they wish to stand by proxy for access requirements. There shall also be a box for candidates to tick if, for access reasons, they would be unable to write a written statement by the time of the election.
  - e. In the circumstance where any candidate for a position has declared their intent to stand by proxy on their nomination form, and no other candidate has indicated they would be unable to write a written statement by the time of the election for access reasons, all candidates in this election shall be required to stand by proxy. This requirement to stand by proxy shall be announced to the full conference immediately after the close of nominations.
  - f. In the circumstance where any candidate for a position has declared their intent to stand by proxy on their nomination form, but another candidate has indicated they would be unable to write a written statement by the time of the election for access reasons, all candidates in this election shall have the choice as to whether to stand by proxy, based on personal preference. This choice shall be announced to the full conference immediately after the close of nominations.
  - g. Regardless of whether candidates stand by proxy, Steering Committee may choose to schedule a question time for an election. This question time is optional for all candidates, and candidates standing by proxy shall still be allowed to participate.
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- h. The ability to stand by proxy shall be advertised prior to Conference, and announced at the start of Conference to all Members present. All Members present shall be informed that if they wish to run for a position, they may be required to stand by proxy, unless there are access requirements preventing them from doing so.
  - i. All access requirements informed to Steering Committee shall be kept strictly confidential. No information may be given to any individual outside of Steering Committee, except, where necessary, the chair for an election.
  - j. Candidates for the election to an Trans Officer posts shall be invited to give a five-minute speech during the process of their election. Candidates may, for access requirements, request this time limit be made flexible, in which case, no defined time limit shall apply. After eight minutes, the chair for that election shall have the discretion to request that the speech be ended.
  - k. Candidates for the election to an Trans Officer post may, at any point prior to the close of nominations, request to stand by proxy for access requirements. In this circumstance, all candidates for the election shall be required to submit a written statement of no more than 1000 words which shall be read out on their behalf by the chair of the election, in place of a speech.
  - l. Regardless of whether candidates stand by proxy, there shall be a scheduled question time for Trans Officer elections.

### **Conference resolves**

1. To ensure any published access breaks are adhered to, and not run into.
  2. To ensure that the noise level remains at an accessible level throughout conference.
  3. To ensure that all references to BSL (British Sign Language) applause, are referred to by name.
  4. Add under 'The Agenda', after 23, renumbering as necessary:
    - a. "24. The Agenda for the Annual Conference must include a scheduled access break of at least 10 minutes for every 90 minutes of full sessions of the Conference. 'Compound' access breaks, eg a break of 20 minutes following a 3-hour session, will not satisfy this requirement. These must be adhered to at all times." Add under 'The Steering Committee' after 108, renumbering as necessary:
    - b. "109. There will be a Disabled Students' place on the Steering Committee, which will be elected at the Disabled Students' Caucus."  
and amend 104 as needed.
  5. To add a new section 'Accessibility of Conference' prior to 'The Trans Committee', renumbering as necessary:
    - a. "77. Any Member of Conference present may request, for access reasons, that no audible applause occurs throughout Conference. In this situation, it shall be requested by the steering committee that delegates do not audibly applaud for the remainder of Conference, and BSL (British Sign Language) applause shall be requested and encouraged instead."
    - b. "78. Any Member of Conference present may request, for access requirements, that the noise level of Conference be reduced. In this situation, a member of Steering Committee may give a statement to Conference regarding this request. Conference shall not be allowed to continue
- 



until the Steering Committee deem the noise level to have reached an acceptable and accessible level. This shall, however, not result in the dampening of PA systems unless they are exceptionally and unnecessarily loud.”

- c. “79. Any individuals who are deemed to be deliberately making noise to prevent Conference from continuing, may, at the discretion of the Steering Committee, be required to leave conference, either temporarily or permanently.”
  - d. “80. A clear path shall, at all times, be available for any Member of Conference present to leave the room. All Members of Conference present may leave and return to any session of Conference or any Caucus, at any time, and this shall be made clear to all Members present at the start of Conference.”
6. A guide to the process of elections of Trans Officer and Committee posts, including the process of nominations, and standing by proxy, shall be publicly available at all times.

## **Zone: Welfare & Student Rights Zone**

### **Motion 501: Disabled Students Unite and Fight**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Disabled trans people face additional challenges
2. Mental health, social care and gender identity services are in crisis
3. Significantly more trans people (33.3%) identify as disabled than their cis (14.8%) counterparts (PACE, 2015)
4. Disabled people can face ableism from within trans communities and trans people can face transphobia within disabled groups
5. Disability is a broad umbrella, not just physical disabilities and mental health. It includes, among others, long standing health conditions, learning difficulties and neuroatypicalities.
6. Disabled students and trans students are two overlapping groups with many common needs

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Disabled trans people deserve to be treated with dignity in all services they access
2. No-one should receive worse medical care due to the fact that they are trans
3. No-one should receive worse gender care due to the fact that they are disabled
4. University health, counselling and disability services often fail disabled students and often lack any knowledge on trans issues
5. With the combined power of disabled cis and trans activists we can achieve more
6. Trans and/or disabled students would benefit from a healthcare fund available on their campus to provide small grants to cover medical costs

#### **Conference resolves**



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1. To design and run at least two training events for University Health, Counselling and Disability staff on how they can make their services more disability and trans friendly
  2. To make the above the training material available for attendees and to the public to be able to use as a resource to train their colleagues or other health and disability workers
  3. To work with the Disabled Student's Campaign to help disabled and LGBT+/trans student groups to work together to achieve collective liberation
  4. To create a guide, which will be sent out to all disabled and LGBT+/trans student groups, on how they can work together to fight for improvements to their local health services and to

### **Motion 502: Sexual and Domestic Violence**

*Content warning: This motion contains statistics of how prominent sexual and domestic violence is within the disabled community. This motion only will include phrases domestic/sexual/physical violence or abuse and stalking.*

#### **Conference believes**

1. Disabled people experience disproportionately higher rates of domestic abuse.
2. More than one in three people with mental health conditions have experiencing domestic abuse in the past year and one in 20 people with mental health conditions have experienced sexual violence in the past year.
3. In England, disabled people experience twice the rate of sexual assault, domestic abuse and stalking than non-disabled people.
4. Disabled adults are 1.5 times more likely to be a victim of violence than those who are non-disabled, while those with mental health conditions are at nearly four times the risk of experiencing violence.
5. Disability is one of the characteristics most closely associated with domestic abuse.
6. That a loophole in legislation exists than allows carers to abuse the person under their care, for example not allowing Trans disabled people to transition, sexual abuse of learning disabled people, under the reasoning that carers are acting in the disabled person's "best interests".
7. Many crisis services for people experiencing sexual and domestic violence are gendered, and are women-only.
8. Some crisis services that are women-only do not allow trans women to access them.
9. There is a lack of availability of crisis services which allow men and nonbinary people to access them.
10. Many crisis centres are dealing with large cuts to funding due to austerity and privatisation.

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Disabled people are disproportionately vulnerable to violence and our needs have been neglected for too long.
  2. There are barriers to disabled students accessing support in ability to access services, accessibility of reporting structures and stigma relating to disability and mental illness.
  3. Trans women may need access to women-specific spaces when dealing with crisis.
  4. Gender is diverse and so should our options for services.
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### **Conference resolves**

1. For the Trans Campaign to create resources for trans students' officers and LGBT officers to help signpost disabled students who may have experienced domestic and/or sexual violence.
2. For the Trans Campaign to work with other third party organisations such as Disabled Survivors Unite, Winvisible, Regard and other DPOs.
3. To work with trans inclusive crisis services to spread best practice.
4. To advocate for all women-only crisis services to be inclusive of trans women
5. To campaign against cuts and privatisation of crisis services via a range of tactics including lobbying, protest and direct action.
6. To campaign for the establishment of crisis centres which accept services users of all genders and none. These should not replace existing womens-only services if they are trans inclusive.

### **Motion 503: Transmisogyny and the Gender Recognition Act**

#### **Conference believes**

1. The Gender Recognition Act (2004) was introduced to allow trans men and women the right to privacy and marriage. Under the Act, a person seeking recognition must provide evidence of having lived in their gender for 2 years to the government's Gender Recognition Panel
2. The Act implicitly excludes intersex people, and makes no provision for non-binary identity.
3. Following the Trans Inquiry, the Westminster and Scottish governments have announced the potential for reforms to the GRA with consultations this year.
4. Since the announcement of the potential reforms there has been a huge backlash from transmisogynistic feminists (commonly referred to as TERFs) and the media, with the aim of discrediting the trans community and casting GRA reform as "anti-woman".

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Transmisogynistic feminists are campaigning to restrict women's services to people who are assigned female at birth only.
  2. A sex-at-birth restriction on women's services will harm trans and cis women alike. Trans women will be excluded from women's only services whilst trans men will have access, meaning that spaces are no longer womens-only.
  3. Policing spaces based on sex at birth is both unworkable and is likely to result in butch cis women being policed out of services if they do not conform to a cisnormative gender presentation.
  4. Government recording of individual gender and trans status on a gender recognition register places trans people at further risk of oppression and violence. Cyber security is an ongoing issue, what if this information was leaked and distributed?
  5. Ending government regulation of gender does not preclude voluntary acknowledgement of gender to target services, support and protection for vulnerable groups.
  6. We should end mandatory state recognition of gender and move to a system of self-definition across the board.
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7. We support the existence of women's-only spaces and services. We want these to be open to all women (cis, trans, intersex and/or non-binary), not just those assigned female at birth.

### **Conference resolves**

1. To campaign to end the mandatory, immutable recording of gender on birth, marriage (or partnership) and death certificates
2. To campaign to end the legal notion of gender as a regulated list of acceptable identities
3. To campaign for the replacement of the Gender Recognition Act with a system of self-identification and the strengthening and extension of the protections that the Act affords to persons of all gender identities and histories without need for government registration.
4. Short of achieving wins outlined in Resolves 2, the campaign should advocate for nonbinary legal recognition to not become an exclusive gender option. ie. if you are a nonbinary woman, you should be able to be recognised as both
5. To work with the Women's and LGBT+ Campaigns to ensure that both cis women and trans people respond to the GRA consultations
6. To lobby institutions so that changes to names and genders on degree certificates, etc., to not require a Gender Recognition Certificate
7. To campaign against cuts to womens specific services, and to advocate for them to be inclusive to trans women.

### **Motion 504: Let us pee, and not together**

#### **Conference believes**

1. Some trans & non-binary people feel uncomfortable using gendered facilities due to misgendering and higher risk of hate crime, as well as feeling like neither option reflects their gender
2. Due to this, lots of student unions have lobbied and often gained gender-neutral facilities

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Lots of these facilities have been made from accessible facilities, which are for disabled people, and these are often also very limited within institutions
2. Trans and disabled people deserve more facilities but without causing issues for each other
3. Due to the requirement of an access impact review, legally it is not possible to adapt an accessible toilet into a gender-neutral toilet, even if this is only in name
4. Designating accessible toilets links being trans and/or non-binary to being a disability, which is incorrect

#### **Conference resolves**

1. To mandate the elected NUS Trans Officer to lobby unions to create gender-neutral facilities without disadvantaging disabled students
  2. To encourage and remind unions of the obligations to both disabled and trans students human rights to adequate hygiene facilities
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## Motion 505: Campaign against Fitness to Study

### Conference believes

1. Many institutions have 'Fitness to Study' policies in place.<sup>8</sup>
2. Trans students can often require time out for their studies, for medical appointments, or other reasons. This could mean they could be disproportionately affected by 'Fitness to Study' policies, and face potential discrimination
3. A large proportion of trans students face mental health issues. This further puts them at risk at being discriminated against by 'Fitness to Study' policies.
4. Many students will often always meet a criteria for being "unfit" to study, whilst still being entirely able to complete their University degree to a high quality.
5. Some students choose not to disclose or access services due to fear of these policies, presenting safeguarding issues.
6. There is not a universal policy requiring support services to be up to standard and requiring the same policy to be implemented across universities.
7. 'Return to Study' policies are often very difficult, requiring many individuals to have support statements which are not easily obtainable.

### Conference further believes

1. Institutions place a vast amount of responsibility on the individual, and not on failing support services.
2. Fit to study policies are not always put in place in the interests of vulnerable students, but instead to 'deal with problem students'.<sup>9</sup>
3. A 'fear of fitness to study' policies can be detrimental to students, due to a lack of 'reasonable adjustments' in line with Equality Act 2010 and safeguarding risks.
4. Students not affected by 'Fitness to Study' policies are rarely aware of such policies existing, harming the ability to campaign against them.

### Conference resolves

1. To lobby for a cross-University approach to 'Fitness to Study' which includes strict criteria, written in such a way as to prevent institutions using the policy as a tool for discrimination and exclusion of marginalised students, or those with mental health issues.
2. To further raise awareness of Fitness to Study policies.
3. To work with the NUS Disabled Students' Campaign to submit Freedom of Information Requests regarding how many students are on 'Fitness to Study' policies.

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<sup>8</sup> Durham University Policy - [https://www.dur.ac.uk/university\\_calendar/volume1/policies\\_and\\_strategies](https://www.dur.ac.uk/university_calendar/volume1/policies_and_strategies)

<sup>9</sup> Fit to study? Dealing with Problem Students. <http://www.idras.ac.uk/designing-a-better-system-for-dealing-with-complaints/is-there-a-dispute/fit-to-study-dealing-with-problem-students>





## Zone: Emergency Motions

### Motion 001: A-u-t-on-omy, tell you what it means to me

#### Conference believes

7. That NUS Trans Campaign was created by a motion to National Conference 2016 as an autonomous liberation campaign<sup>10</sup>
8. That other liberation campaigns include the LGBT+ Campaign, the Disabled Students' Campaign, the Women's Campaign, and the Black Students Campaign
9. That NUS Articles and Rules require policy passed at autonomous NUS conferences, including liberation conferences, to be adopted by National Conference.

#### Conference further believes

1. That autonomous campaigns should not be faced with the overturning of their decisions by NUS National Conference

#### Conference resolves

1. To oppose the process of policy adoption for all liberation, section, nation and other autonomous campaigns
2. That NUS Trans Conference should not be limited to one day of democratic content, and to reaffirm that it is an autonomous conference and no longer a sub-conference of the LGBT+ Campaign
  - a. To mandate the NUS Trans Officer to submit a motion to NUS LGBT+ conference to this effect, removing the provisions for Trans Conference from the LGBT+ Campaign standing orders.

### Motion 002: "No Title Submitted"

#### Conference believes

1. That NUS Trans Campaign was created by a motion to National Conference 2016 as an autonomous liberation campaign
2. That following its creation standing orders were drafted by key stakeholders in preparation for the first conference of the campaign, in 2017, and adopted at that conference
3. That these standing orders omitted definitions for several caucuses

#### Conference further believes

1. That defining caucus membership avoids ambiguity and confusion

#### Conference resolves

1. To add the following to the standing orders and renumber as necessary:
  - a. 30. Asexual Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as asexual. Asexual Students' Caucus may also be attended by the existing Asexual Rep.

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<sup>10</sup> [https://s3-eu-west-](https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/nusdigital/document/documents/42096/fa1fae888e743584c75da13f4a1284fd/Steering_Emergency_Motions.pdf)

[1.amazonaws.com/nusdigital/document/documents/42096/fa1fae888e743584c75da13f4a1284fd/Steering\\_Emergency\\_Motions.pdf](https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/nusdigital/document/documents/42096/fa1fae888e743584c75da13f4a1284fd/Steering_Emergency_Motions.pdf)





- b. 31. Poly Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as poly.
  - c. 32. Non-Binary Students' Caucus may only be attended by those in the Campaign who self-define as Non-Binary. Non-Binary Students' Caucus may also be attended by the existing Non-Binary Rep.
2. To add "34. e. Rules Revision"

### **Motion 003: Support Students Facing Disciplinary Action**

#### **Conference believes**

1. A student at the University of Bristol organised an event with Women's Place UK regarding the reforms to the Gender Recognition Act
2. Another student at the University of Bristol wrote and shared an open letter calling for the event to be cancelled in February.
3. A third student spoke for a motion at Bristol SU Annual Members' Meeting which called for Bristol SU not to collaborate with Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist groups, which passed with a large majority
4. Both the student who wrote the open letter and the student who spoke for the motion were charged with investigations into disciplinary action by the University within the last 2 weeks.
5. While the charge against the third student who spoke at the Annual Members' Meeting were dropped, the student who wrote the open letter is facing disciplinary action.

#### **Conference further believes**

1. Students at University of Bristol have faced unfair disciplinary action for speaking out against TERF events organised in collaboration with the University
2. NUS Trans Campaign has a duty to support students facing disciplinary charges on the grounds of speaking out against transphobia and transmisogyny.

#### **Conference resolves**

1. That the Trans Officer should write to University of Bristol regarding the issue.
2. That the Trans Officer should contact Bristol SU to remind them of their duty to support trans students
3. That the Trans Campaign should show solidarity with students affected by these unfair actions
4. That the Trans Campaign should support students affected by disciplinary action on the grounds of speaking out against transphobia or transmisogyny in the future.







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