**Motion Proposal:** For Student Unions to facilitate a Family Friendly Study Space in their Academia.

**Proposer:** Kelly Madden, elected Delegation to NUS Parents and Carers’ Conference

**Conference Believes:**

1. There are currently 1.3 million mature students in the UK.
2. The majority of mature students are parent students and this number is increasing as we see more non-traditional students attending university.
3. Even with this increase, Universities have not been able to increase their support of the non-traditional students and university libraries and study spaces are not child friendly environments (Nuffield Foundation, 2018).
4. A report conducted in 2012 stated that some students were unable to bring children into the library which limited their time and encouraged the feeling of “not-belonging” to the academia (Moreau & Kerner, 2012).
5. Students with parental responsibilities are less likely to graduate than their childless counterparts (Petit, 2014).
6. Family Friendly study spaces have been introduced in colleges across America, such as Portland State (Petit, 2014), Bingham Young University (BYU Library, 2018) and Long Beach State (Kiley, 2018), and have been a success with the parent students.

**Conference Further Believes**

1. Parents are inevitably put at a disadvantage as they do not have the same access to educational facilities as the standard school leaver.
2. Family friendly study spaces will improve the student experience for parent students and make them feel included.
3. This family friendly study space will give parents more freedom in accessing the library and resources after school and in the weekends.
4. This will increase their access to resources, study environments, and overall student experience, making parent students feel valued and apart of the academia.

**Conference Resolves**

1. To encourage all Students’ Unions to facilitate a family friendly study space for parent students who attend their University.