

  
  
**TRANS  
CONFERENCE**

NUS Trans Students' Conference 2019

Resolutions

**For Publication**

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# Education Zone

## Queering the Curriculum

### Conference Believes

1. The curricula taught at most institutions are rooted in cisnormative frameworks that often exclude trans people or tokenise them as oddities.
2. Much work on queering and/or liberating the curriculum has focused on arts and humanities.
3. Attitudes towards and understanding of trans people within life and health sciences, including medicine, are of particular significance to trans people as these determine access to healthcare and particular medicalised/biological ideas of gender are often cited as reasons trans people do not or should not exist.
4. Medical students who are either not taught about trans experiences or are only given a limited and misrepresentative education on them are more likely to become doctors who provide inadequate or actively harmful care to trans patients.
5. Academic transphobia and trans erasure are often entwined with colonial ideas of gender.

### Conference Further Believes

1. In queering the curriculum we need to focus on not just arts and humanities but also STEM subjects, particularly life and health sciences.
2. A queered curriculum must also be a decolonised one.
3. It is important to ensure that future doctors are equipped to adequately support trans patients.

### Conference Resolves

1. To run a campaign on queering the curriculum with particular focus on how gender and sex are taught within life and health sciences.
  2. To support students running campaigns on their campuses around queering, liberating and/or decolonising the curriculum.
  3. To work with other groups seeking to queer, liberate and/or decolonise the curriculum.
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# Society and Citizenship Zone

## No Platform for Fascists

### Conference Believes

1. Fascists should not be afforded a platform
2. Fascists represent a distinct and violent threat to the safety and wellbeing of wider society, particularly working class organisation and the existence of marginalised groups by being afforded the opportunity of a platform.
3. TERFs are becoming increasingly confident and are adopting tactics used by fascists and nationalists, such as doxxing, joining with the religious right and stirring up the demonisation of trans people on the street.
4. That NUS activists who are trans are subject to a great deal of harassment as a result of sharing platforms and engaging with TERFs and other transphobes on their own terms, and this creates a situation where those activists have to make a choice between their own wellbeing/safety and getting their voice heard.
5. No platforming a speaker is not the same as protesting against their speaking.

### Conference Further Believes

1. To be blunt, we must not be afraid to call a spade a spade. When we see TERFs using fascist tactics, we should not shy away from highlighting these similarities and the similar ways in which TERFs and fascists want to socially engineer trans people out of public life.
2. That normalising the distribution of transphobic ideas via sharing a platform just results in the debate being seen as a "two sides" issue. This makes it even more difficult for NUS activists to advocate for trans issues in public safely.
3. No platforming of fascists is an act of self defence on the part of the working class and other marginalised groups
4. The only way to truly change the views of society at large is through concerted efforts at debate. No platforming is insufficient on its own, even in the case of fascism, to win people over and change minds.

### Conference Resolves

1. To produce and distribute free political education resources to LGBT+ students across the UK exploring how we fight TERF and fascist ideology on our campuses and streets.
2. To materially support the organising of student anti-fascist and anti-TERF initiatives where possible.
3. To not share a platform with anti-trans individuals or groups who are (associated with groups) who use fascist tactics.
4. To continue to advocate a no platform policy for fascists for the reasons outlined above.

## Developing our approach on the GRA reform

### Conference Believes

1. In 2018 NUS ran a campaign encouraging students and students unions to respond to a public consultation on reforms to the Gender Recognition Act.
  2. During this process, transmisogynistic organisations have encouraged people to write anti-trans submissions, including relying on legal inaccuracies about equalities legislation.
  3. The past few years in particular have featured a massive attack on trans people, particularly targeted at trans women, young trans people and trans people of colour.
  4. Reform to the GRA in England and Wales is likely to be introduced in Westminster in following the summer recess in 2019.
  5. NUS Trans Campaign has existing policy which broadly sets out an approach to NUS' position on the Gender Recognition Act.
  6. There are currently no plans to introduce legal gender recognition reform in Northern Ireland.
  7. The Scottish Parliament has suggested broadly good proposals, including non-binary legal recognition
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## Conference Further Believes

1. We have seen transphobic statements and rhetoric from members of many parties represented in Westminster. There isn't a party that has a uniformly good position on trans issues.
2. While reforms to the GRA will have a relatively small material impact, the role discussion of the reforms has had on the discourse around the alleged "danger" of trans people has been incredibly toxic and created a dangerous environment for trans people.
3. Trans people in Northern Ireland deserve a better form of legal gender recognition than is currently available.
4. In order to make a good piece of legislation pass, it may be necessary to lobby all major political parties rather than just rely on lobbying progressive parties.

## Conference Resolves

1. To make the primary legislative project of the NUS Trans Campaign passing a reforms to legal gender recognition.
2. To build in a critique of transphobia, transmisogyny and trans-exclusionary feminism into lobbying efforts, working with organisations such as Sister Not Cister.
3. To support NUS Scotland and their LGBT+, Trans and Women's Campaigns in bringing in legal gender recognition through Holyrood.
4. To support NUS-USI, specifically their LGBT+, Trans and Women's Liberation Campaigns in bringing in legal gender recognition, whether through Stormont or Westminster depending on NUS-USI policy.
5. In lobbying for legal gender recognition, to work with all mainstream parties.

*Motion Word Count: 365*

## Solidarity with the marginalised people of Brazil

### Conference Believes

1. Jair Bolsonaro was elected as President of Brazil in 2018, and took office at the start of 2019.
2. He's been noted as having fascist politics, and has made a number of outrageous statements including "I'd rather have a dead son than a gay son".<sup>1</sup>
3. He wants to further militarise Brazil's police and carry out a series of authoritarian policies that have serious consequences for the most marginalised people in Brazil.
4. Brazil has one of the highest murder rates for trans people in the world, with black and indigenous trans women especially at risk.
5. In his first week in office, Bolsonaro has stripped removed protecting LGBT rights as a responsibility of the human rights ministry.
6. In addition, he has looked at removing material support for black and indigenous Brazilians, including scrapping financial support and protected land.

### Conference Further Believes

1. That the movement for LGBT+ liberation must be internationalist without being paternalistic or neo-colonialist. The best groups of people to set the direction of liberation movements in a particular area are those directly affected.
2. That we must stand with LGBT+ Brazilians (as well as black and indigenous Brazilians, Brazilian women etc.) in fighting the likely erosion of their rights and the rise of fascism in Brazil.

### Conference Resolves

1. To support demonstrations raising awareness of the likely negative actions of the Bolsonaro regime.
2. To support and build relationships with Brazilians organisations such as Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas, Bissexuais, Travestis e Transexuais and União Nacional dos Estudantes.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://noticias.terra.com.br/brasil/bolsonaro-quotprefiro-filho-morto-em-acidente-a-um-homossexualquot,cf89cc00a90ea310VqnCLD200000bbcceb0aRCRD.html>



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3. In line with pinkwashing policy, to push back against the normalisation of the Bolsonaro regime even if Pride events still go ahead.
  4. To support organisations such as Rainbow Road, who give direct assistance to those aiming to seek asylum

## Strong and Active Unions

### For a Campaigning, Representative, Democratic NUS

Submitted by: Individual Student Member of the Campaign

#### Conference Believes

1. In a letter released on 1 November, NUS President Shakira Martin announced that NUS must make "radical reforms to [it's] corporate and democratic structures" to plug a £3 million deficit.
2. Proposals are being discussed by a Turnaround Board made up of a minority of elected officers. On 27-28 November Student Union Presidents, CEOs, and staff members discussed proposed changes to NUS structures at NUS Strategic Conversation 2019. After a further consultation process with Presidents, these reforms will be presented to delegates at NUS National Conference 2019.
3. This process is deeply undemocratic, giving students no real control over changes to our union. The Turnaround Board is unelected and unaccountable. Any proposal to be voted on at National Conference will be presented as our only chance to save NUS - this is not a real choice. The semi-elected Trustee Board has the power to overturn any vote at conference.
4. We have no guarantees that decisions made at consultation meetings hosted by student unions to discuss the proposals will have any influence in the process.
5. Decision-making power must be in the hands of NUS members. NUS must open the books. A democratically constituted extraordinary conference of delegates from affiliated student unions is the only body which must take decisions. Delegates must have the final say, not an unelected trustee board.

#### Conference Further Believes

1. We don't know yet what the reforms will be, but euphemistic talk of "a streamlined, simplified organisation" suggest drastic cuts to the organisation's democracy and campaigning arm, leaving it as little more than a think tank and service provider.
2. Proposals raised at NUS Strategic Conversation included scrapping Liberation Officers.
3. At a time when trans students face growing attacks on our right to exist from the Tories, TERFs and the globally rising far right, there is an urgent need for a Trans Officer to fight for our rights and for the reforms to our health, education and housing services required for us to survive.
4. Any attempts to undermine democracy, representation and campaigns go against what NUS is for. We need a radical, campaigning National Union of Students that is much more democratic and representative, with real control in the hands of its elected representatives and student members.
5. No cuts must be made to democracy, campaigning or representation. Cut backs must look first to the commercial services arm of NUS.\*
6. As President, Shakira Martin's response to the situation has been deeply undemocratic and undermines the ability of our union to campaign for students' rights.

#### Conference Resolves

1. To campaign at any extraordinary or national conference for no cuts to be made to NUS democracy, liberation and campaigns, and for a democratic, representative and campaigning NUS that can be a real voice for students.
2. To support the no confidence campaign in Shakira Martin.

*\*Note from Steering Committee: NUS Services is a profit-making subsidiary of NUS UK, and while NUS democratic events can express their thoughts on the direction of NUS Services, only NUS National Conference or the NUS UK Board of Trustees have the power to direct its work, other than the NUS Services Board itself.*





## NUS UK Board Has Failed Trans Students

### Conference Believes:

1. NUS Turnaround Board brought a proposal relating to the NUS Joint Boards meeting in mid-January. It proposed the defunding in the short term (2019/2020 election cycle) various parts of NUS' campaigning and democracy.
2. The specific proposal put forward would only allow for 12 FTOs in 2019/2020, so there was a specific discussion on whether to fund the Trans Officer position or the VP Union Development. No trans people were present for that debate, while the VP Union Development was. The decision made by UK Board was to defund the Trans Officer, meaning we have had a Trans Officer in post for less than two years since it was introduced.
3. In the process of consulting for Turnaround, no trans students were actively consulted over the defunding of trans activism in NUS. There was minimal consultation with the current NUS LGBT+ Officers and NUS Trans NEC 2nd place.
4. NUS' trans membership is one of its fastest growing, with important policy issues such as trans healthcare reform, GRA reform and an ominous investigation into why there are so many young trans people.

### Conference Further Believes:

1. The way the NUS Joint Boards have treated trans students (among other groups) is disgraceful. There hasn't even been a cursory consultation into the specific needs of trans students in this process which shows a lack of respect for trans students. Furthermore, the members of the NUS UK Board do not have the knowledge or awareness of the issues that trans students face and made little attempt to find out more.
2. Comments made at the Board suggest that some Board members are under the impression that one FTO (NUS LGBT+ Officer) can undertake the LGBT+ and trans work that was previously undertaken by three full time officers. In relation to how the responsibilities have been distributed, the NUS LGBT+ Officer (who doesn't have to identify as trans) will have the joint most extra work of any NUS FTO.
3. NUS Trans Officer must be restored this year, and NUS Trans Committee must put all remaining resources behind fighting for a Trans Officer in the 2019/2020 year.
4. The Turnaround White Paper is incredibly flawed. [\[1\]](#)

### Conference Resolves

1. That NUS Trans Campaign seeks a censure of the NUS UK Trustee Board on the basis of their lack of due concern for and consultation with trans students.
  2. To work with and support the aims of the existing Save NUS Trans campaign.
  3. To use the remaining NUS Trans Campaign budget (£1,500-2,000) to fight for a paid and resourced Trans Officer in the 2019/2020 year. We shall do this by financially supporting committee members who wish to attend NUS National Conference as observers etc. to campaign with Save NUS Trans, as well as to support trans activists to attend and lobby delegates going to NUS National Conference.
  4. To oppose the Turnaround White Paper and instead support democracy reform with liberation and democracy at its heart.
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# Rules Revision

## A More Representative Membership

Submitted by: NUS Trans Students' Campaign Committee

### Conference Believes

1. That the current delegation structure is every CM can send up to five delegates, with one open space and four reserved spaces. Delegates of four or more must have at least two delegates who experience transmisogyny.
2. That the label of "trans" or "transgender" is rooted in Western and colonialist understandings of gender variance. There are people with roots in the the global south and in colonised countries who are gender variant, non-binary etc. who do not identify as transgender.
3. Since the start of an independent NUS Trans Conference, the attendees have overwhelming been white and/or transmisogyny-exempt.

### Conference Further Believes

1. Delegation structures should exist to encourage the attendance of delegates who are often excluded (formally or informally) from those spaces. Currently, the two most underrepresented groups are people of colour and those who experience transmisogyny.
2. Smaller delegations may make it cheaper for CMs to send delegates, make it cheaper for NUS to find venues and make it simpler for CMs to arrange delegations.
3. Gender variant people from colonised countries and from the global south should not have to identify explicitly as transgender in order to be members of the NUS Trans Campaign. This said, we recognise that for brevity "NUS Trans Campaign" should remain as the Campaign's name. The best way to include the above group is to clarify that non-binary people who do not identify with Western conceptions of transness are still members of the Campaign.

### Conference Resolves

1. To replace order 3 in the Standing Orders with,  
"Individual members of the national union who self-define under the Trans umbrella (including but not limited to the following identities: agender, gender-fluid, genderqueer, transgender, non-binary), those with non-Western genders who wish to organise in trans spaces, and those who are questioning their gender identity shall be considered the members of the Campaign.
2. To replace order 12 in the Standing Orders with,  
"Only self-defining trans and/or non-binary students may attend and/or participate in Trans Conference, including in the submission of motions. This also applies to members of steering committee, who are present to facilitate the democratic procedures."





## Trans and/or Non-binary Students of Colour Caucus

**Submitted by:** Trans Students' Steering Committee

### Conference Believes

1. That in 2018 the NUS LGBT+ Campaign passed a motion titled "Political Blackness is Defunct"
2. That the Trans Campaign has previously passed similar motions
3. That the Black Students Campaign continues to consult on changes to its name

### Conference Further Believes

1. That we should adopt the language "Students of Colour" in place of "Black Students"

### Conference Resolves

1. To rename the Black Students Caucus to "Trans and/or Non-binary Students of Colour Caucus"
2. To empower the Steering Committee to update the Standing Orders as necessary to ensure consistency with this change

## NUS Trans Campaign WILL have a (sort of) committee whether the UK Board likes it or not!

### Conference Believes:

1. As a result of the Turnaround proposal that went to and passed at UK Board (in addition to Trans Officer being defunded), all the liberation, section and Zone committees have been as well. Therefore, the only political leadership to be elected at NUS Trans Conference 2019 will be two trans places on NUS NEC.
2. Scotland and Northern Ireland will elect Trans Officers through NUS Scotland and NUS-USI, who will sit on the NUS Scotland and NUS-USI executive.

### Conference Further Believes

1. This is insufficient leadership for the tens of thousands of trans students across the UK.
2. That the decision to cut Trans Committee will impact the NUS Trans Campaign more than the other liberation campaigns and Zones because it will most likely not have a full time officer. Four people is not sufficient.
3. That there needs to be a working group to help guide the political direction of NUS Trans Campaign. This working group will be composed of the two NEC representatives, NUS Scotland Trans Officer, NUS-USI Trans Officer and three members chosen by lot at Trans Conference

### Conference Resolves

1. That there shall be a volunteer non-voting working group to guide the direction of the NUS Trans Campaign. It will be composed of the two NEC places, the Trans Officers in NUS Scotland and NUS-USI (and NUS Wales once a Trans Officer is introduced there) and three members chosen by lot at NUS Trans Conference. Just to note, this is NOT a committee. The members who are not the NEC reps will not be entitled to vote in committee (because there isn't one) and they will not be entitled to be voting or observing members (with NUS Trans Campaign as their Constituent Member) at any future NUS Trans Conference.
2. The above working group shall be composed of four individuals, one selected from the Black Caucus, one selected from the Anti-transmisogyny Caucus, one selected from the Disabled Students' Caucus and one selected from the delegates of the conference at large
3. In each group, any trans student may put themselves forward. (In the case of those selected in caucuses, only those eligible to be in those caucuses may put themselves forward.) Once all eligible have registered their interest, a name will be selected at random from each group. The three individuals selected will be part of the working group.
4. The process above will be carried out by Trans Steering Committee.
5. This process will be followed each year until an elected Trans Committee is re-instated.
6. The working group shall meet in person or over video conferencing at least four times per year.
7. That individual SUs may contribute funds towards the operation of this working group





# Welfare

## Comprehensive trans policies for all

Individual Student Member of the Campaign

### Conference Believes

1. Many universities, FE institutions, and students' unions have adopted trans inclusivity policies (e.g. Durham University<sup>1</sup>; Leeds City College<sup>2</sup>; University for the Creative Arts Students' Union<sup>3</sup>).
2. Some universities, FE institutions, and Students' Unions do not have these policies.
3. Of those that do, some institutions' policies are insufficient for the full inclusivity and protection of trans students and staff, and/or make inappropriate requirements of trans people such as viewing a Gender Recognition Certificate.
4. There have been recent incidents of transphobic and transmisogynistic content being displayed on campuses<sup>4</sup>, such as Fair Play for Women leaflets<sup>5</sup>.

### Conference Further Believes

1. All students and staff at HE and FE institutions deserve to be included and safe where they work, study, and/or live.
2. Comprehensive trans policies can meaningfully contribute to creating and maintaining this inclusivity and safety.

### Conference Resolves

1. To mandate the NUS Trans Officer and NUS Trans Committee to develop a best practice template for trans policies in universities and FE institutions. This template should advocate that institutions go beyond minimum legal requirements, and explicitly oppose transphobic actions and propaganda on campus, including within the curriculum.
2. To mandate the NUS Trans Officer and NUS Trans Committee to develop a best practice template for trans policies in students' unions. This template should advocate that students' unions go beyond minimum legal requirements, and explicitly oppose transphobic actions and propaganda on campus. It should also advocate that students' unions actively lobby their respective university or FE institution to better include and support trans students.
3. To mandate the NUS Trans Officer and NUS Trans Committee to lobby universities, FE institutions, and students' unions to work with them to create or improve (if considered necessary) existing trans policies based on this template. The policy should be adapted to meet each institution's individual needs.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dur.ac.uk/equality.diversity/positiveworking/policies/> (Gender Identity Policy)

<sup>2</sup> <https://keighleycollege.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/transgender-policy.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://ucasu.com/accountability/transgender-and-non-binary-students-policy/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/stickers-posted-around-uea-campus-labelled-as-transphobic-1-5737480>

<sup>5</sup> <http://theorbital.co.uk/transphobic-literature-distributed-across-campus/>





## GP Healthcare Advocates for Trans Students

### Conference Believes

1. Trans students suffer from poor experiences of healthcare provided by university-linked GPs.
2. There are a number of key issues which trans students have reported.
  - a. The first is 'trans broken arm syndrome', where non-transition-related health problems are blamed on the patient's transition or trans identity.
  - b. The second is a misunderstanding of non-binary genders and an unwillingness to learn, at great detriment to students being seen; this includes ignoring students' non-binary gender identities in favour of casting them as binary trans people, and refusing to refer non-binary students to GICs.
  - c. There are also general issues with transphobia among doctors and nurses, and problems with the NHS name change system.
3. A common suggestion for improvement is training for GPs. Mandatory training would be beneficial in ensuring all university-linked GPs are informed on how to treat trans patients.
4. However, mandatory training may be difficult to apply consistently and individual prejudice may lead to any training presented not being taken fully on board.
5. That trans people are more likely to require the support of mental health services, chronic illness services, and autism services.
6. That queer, trans and black people are massively more likely to be detained under the mental health act.
7. That migrants and people of colour risk arbitrary detention and violence when accessing nhs care.
8. That the NHS is legally incapable of providing care without the threat of incarceration under mental health and immigration law.
9. That the queercare network provides autonomous worker/patient controlled care, advocacy and training to queer and trans people.

### Conference Further Believes

1. There is an unfortunate and pervasive problem among student medical practices and their treatment of trans students.
  2. There is a consistent falling short of the standard of care provided for trans students by GPs.
  3. In particular, disabled or chronically ill trans students who need extensive GP support for their conditions require a doctor that respects both their chronic illness and their trans identity.
  4. These issues are symptomatic of a larger attitude that people with problems perceived to be complex or outside of the norm should not expect consistent and respectful treatment, or expect to be treated as any more than an inconvenience.
  5. In the light of mandatory training being difficult to institute, healthcare advocates trained to support trans people in medical settings would be an alternative solution. They would be able to hold GPs accountable for the standard of care they provide and take the emotional burden off trans students to argue or explain themselves.
  6. Having an advocate would take pressure off the trans patient in question to challenge GPs and waste their appointment time arguing, explaining themselves, etc.
  7. Advocates would be able to assert that the needs of the patient are the priority, keep appointments on track, and shut down unnecessary or prejudiced questioning of a patient's identity or medical needs.
  8. Having individuals trained as part of support and welfare staff at students' unions would allow training to be applied more consistently, and people who want to do the role would be more likely to take training on board.
  9. Healthcare provision for trans people in the uk is not fit for purpose, including transition related care, but also services used by trans people, such as mental health services and chronic illness support.
  10. That detention is an unnecessary, oppressive and undesirable component of healthcare provision.
  11. That harm reduction, by providing services, training and advocacy to those threatened by NHS "care provision", is a necessary step.
  12. Robust advocacy services are essential additions to autonomous healthcare provision.
  13. That harm reduction should be the priority of such services.
  14. That the queercare network provides both advocacy, harm reduction services and healthcare provision to groups that have difficulty accessing NHS services.
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## **Conference Resolves**

1. To mandate a healthcare advocate as part of the support and welfare staff at every student union.
2. To mandate that the healthcare advocate is trained in advocacy for trans people and confidentiality.
3. To mandate that the healthcare advocate is available to accompany trans people to university-linked GP appointments.
4. To mandate adequate signposting by unions to ensure trans students are aware of this service.
5. To support the creation of autonomous, worker/patient controlled advocacy and healthcare networks.
6. To publicly support the efforts of the QueerCare network to build autonomous healthcare and advocacy services to the trans community and beyond.
7. To provide logistical support to the QueerCare network, distributing resources to SUs across the country.
8. To promote QueerCare training courses to the NUS, SUs and universities

## **Trans healthcare in a well-funded, publicly and democratically owned and run NHS**

### **Conference Believes**

1. As this conference recognised last year, trans and non-binary people face a large range of obstacles to and issues in accessing trans healthcare, gender identity clinics, and other aspects of health care. To change this requires in part recognising and challenging these specific issues.
2. The NHS has faced successive rounds of privatisation, most recently and dramatically the 2012 Health and Social Care Act, which fundamentally changed its structure, purpose and functioning.
3. The so-called "Sustainability and Transformation Plans" announced in December 2015 are forcing widespread closures, privatisations and severe cuts of NHS services across the country.
4. The NHS has been widely recognised to be in a state of increasing crisis over the last few years.
5. In August 2018, unelected NHS England executives instructed NHS bodies to direct their elective surgery patients to private providers, given lack of capacity within the NHS.

### **Conference Further Believes**

1. That the NHS is in crisis, caused by effective privatisation and policies which enforce cuts.
2. That the fight for good trans healthcare requires its only specific priorities, but can only succeed as part of a wider movement to tackle this crisis, by bringing the NHS into public ownership, under democratic control, and with adequate funding.

### **Conference Resolves**

1. To point out and fight rolling privatisation and cuts, and the policies which are driving them.
  2. Fight for, and fight for Labour to campaign for:
    - a) rolling renationalisation of clinical, ancillary and back-office services; creating a universal, comprehensive, publicly-owned, -run and -accountable, and free NHS. This should include prescriptions, dentistry and optical care; gender identity services and trans healthcare; counselling, therapy and mental health services.
    - b) Nationalising social care along the same lines to create a free, public system.
    - c) Reversing expensive and wasteful privatisation and marketisation; ending PFI; ending policies which are driving cuts; liberating the NHS from debt.
    - d) Ensuring that NHS and social care services are all publicly provided, owned and accountable, ending all forms of privatisation, outsourcing and internal markets.
    - e) Fully publicly funding both the NHS and social care, by taxing the rich and corporations.
    - f) Improving workers' pay, rights, training and say in the service; restoring bursaries; guaranteeing safe staffing levels.
    - g) Reversing attacks on migrants' rights to healthcare.
    - h) Tackling causes of ill health by reversing austerity.
  3. Campaigning with unions, health campaigns and the "NHS (Reinstatement) Bill" initiative.
  4. Continue to campaign for better access to and provision of trans healthcare and gender identity services.
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## Decolonising Trans Spaces

### Conference Believes

1. Trans people of colour often face racism and racialised oppressions such as xenophobia and Islamophobia within trans spaces.
2. Trans people who are migrants, Muslim and/or Jewish often experience racialised oppression with trans spaces.
3. Trans students of colour experience the intersecting of oppressions of transphobia and racism, while often not having access to spaces or services equipped to deal with them, often leading to increased mental health issues.
3. There are a multitude of genders specific to cultures of the Global South and formerly colonised countries which do not fit the Western cis/trans framework. Some of these individuals identify as trans, some do not.
4. Students' Unions and student activists are often unsure of how to make trans spaces inclusive of trans PoC and PoC whose genders exist beyond the Western cis/trans framework.

### Conference Further Believes

1. People with non-Western genders should be supported by trans activism and included within trans spaces should they wish, without having to explicitly describe themselves as trans.
2. Trans spaces should be places where trans people of colour feel safe, included and supported.
3. It is the responsibility of those running or creating trans spaces to challenge racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and other racialised oppressions within those spaces and to create a safe environment for trans people of colour, trans migrants, trans Muslims and trans Jewish people.
4. The NUS Trans Campaign has a duty to support Sus and student activists in creating these inclusive trans spaces.

### Conference Resolves

1. The NUS Trans Campaign will take a decolonising approach to gender in all its activities.
2. To continue to support the Trans People of Colour Subcommittee including financially.
3. To create and distribute guidance, led by the TPoC Subcommittee, for student activists and SUs on decolonising gender and creating decolonised trans spaces, including how to challenge racism, Islamophobia, xenophobia and anti-semitism within these spaces.
4. To support trans students of colour on their campuses.

## Stand By Trans Youth

### Conference Believes

1. The Gender Identity Development Service (GIDS) is the only trans healthcare provider in the UK that specialises in the treatment of trans young people.<sup>1</sup>
2. In 2017/18 there were 2,519 referrals received at GIDS, representing a 25 per cent increase compared to the previous year which had 2,016 referrals.<sup>2</sup>
3. Mermaids are a UK charity that supports trans children, young people and their families.<sup>3</sup>
4. The LGBT Foundation are a Manchester-based charity that supports the needs of the LGBT community with a particular emphasis on health and wellbeing. Amongst the services they provide are a binder scheme and an advice hotline.<sup>4</sup>
5. The UK Government have announced the launch of an inquiry into the growing number of young people, and particularly trans young people assigned female at birth who are being referred to Gender Identity Clinics (GICs).<sup>5</sup>

### Conference Further Believes

1. Mermaids have faced a growing onslaught of hostile press from a variety of news outlets including the Metro<sup>6</sup>, Daily Mail<sup>7</sup>, and the Express<sup>8</sup> as well as harassment and online abuse from anti-trans activists<sup>9</sup>.
  2. The LGBT Foundation have been similarly attacked by the press and specifically the Daily Mail, who hired a reporter to pose as a trans 13 year-old in order to access their free binder scheme.<sup>10</sup>
  3. The work done by these organisations is life-saving and vital.
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4. The NUS Trans students' campaign represents a proportion of the trans youth affected by this negative media reporting.

### **Conference Resolves**

1. To affirm our stance that we should protect and extend the rights of trans youth and stand in solidarity with the young trans people within our community.
2. To develop further relationships with Gendered Intelligence and Mermaids, with a specific frame of helping them integrate their activities into student organising in universities and colleges.
3. To campaign for a more decentralised system of transition-related health and social care for those under 17.
4. To fight for media coverage around young trans people to treat them with more dignity and respect, rather than treating them as victims of an "evil transgender ideology"

### References

- 1 - <http://gids.nhs.uk/about-us#who-do-we-see>
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  - 3 - <https://www.mermaidsuk.org.uk/about-mermaids.html>
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  - 8 - <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/923400/mermaids-charity-teacher-misgendering-pupil-hate-crime>
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  - 10 - <https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2018/12/02/lgbt-foundation-mail-on-sunday-chest-binders/>
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