

meeting of: National Executive Council (ninth meeting, An Emergency meeting)

place: Lambeth Town Hall

date and time: 10th January 2011

Present:

Members:

	Name
President	Aaron Porter (President)
Zones	Shane Chowen & Toni Pearce (Further Education); Usman Ali & Stevie Wise (Higher Education); Susan Nash & Aakash Naik (Society & Citizenship); Ed Marsh & Paddy Stearn (Union Development); Ben Whittaker & Pete Woodward (Welfare)
Liberation	Kanja Sesay & Anil Sachdeo (Black Students); Rupy Kaur & Ana D'Silva (Disabled Students); Vicki Baars & Alan Bailey (LGBT); Olivia Bailey & Estelle Hart (Women's)
Student Sections	Sean Rillo-Raczka (Mature & Part Time Students); Dante Micheaux and Tobin Webb (Postgraduate Students); Christina Yan Zhang (International Students)
Nations	Liam Burns and Robin Parker (NUS Scotland); Katie Dalton & Luke Young (NUS Wales); Ciarnan Helferty & Adrienne Peltz (NUS-USI)
Block	Thomas Graham, Dannie Grufferty, Sophia James, Fatima Junaid, Joshua McKenzie, Pete Mercer, John Peart, James Lee Pickin, Liam Preston, Ryan Wain.

In attendance:

Staff Matt Hyde (CEO); Jim Dickinson (Director Campaigns & Strategy); Nick Smith, Vic Langer, Sarah Wayman (ACTS rep)

Apologies:

Zones	None
Sections	Joy Elliott, Rebecca Sawbridge
Block	Lynne Brown, Thea Graham, Fatima Junaid, Javed Sheikh, Rachel Wenstone

The emergency meeting was called by Aaron Porter with the sole purpose of discussing and approving a motion on the way ahead for the Education Funding Campaign.

The motion had several amendments submitted to it which were subsequently composited together by their proposers so that text was not debated more than once.

The final motion, passed as amended is included as Appendix A.
The composited amendments as present at the start of the meeting are included as Appendix B.



minutes

1. Introductory & Administration

- 1.1 Aaron Porter opened the meeting
- 1.2 Apologies were noted
- 1.3 There were no conflicts of interest recorded
- 1.4 The following issues were noted within the minutes and asked to be changed
 - That Alan Bailey had taken parts on the first Emergency Motion to remove the final point in the first amendment;“ CR2 A ‘candlelit’ vigil during the evening of the vote with 9,000 ‘candles’ to represent potential fees”
 - That this part had not been removed
 - That Alan Bailey, Vicki Baars and Ciarnan Helferty had voted for the motion as amendedSubject to those amendments the minutes were approved.
- 1.5 There were no matters arising from the minutes
- 1.6 Ana D’Silva welcomed as a new member, co-opted by the Disabled Students’ Campaign and

2. Reports and accountability

- 2.1 The Trustee Board minutes of the 13th October were noted

3. Motions

The Motion “The way forward for the Education Funding Campaign” was proposed by Aaron Porter (AP).

Amendment 1

Liam Burns spoke for the Amendment and it passed unanimously.

Amendment 2

LB spoke for the Amendment

Ryan Wain (RW) spoke against the Amendment

Open contributions were taken from Sean Rillo-Raczka (SRR), Ben Whittaker (BW), Vicki Baars (VB), Estelle Hart (EH), Katie Dalton (KD), Stevie Wise (SW), Rupy Kaur (RK), Robin Parker (RP), Ed Marsh (EM), Toni Pearce (TP), Ciarnan Helferty (CH), Olivia Bailey (OB) and Alan Bailey (AB).

There was a call for a recorded vote

For the Amendment	Sean Rillo-Raczka, Kanja Sesay, Anil Sachdeo, Joshua McKenzie, Alan Bailey, Vicki Baars, Aakash Naik, Liam Preston, Adrienne Peltz, Robin Parker, Stevie Wise, Ciarnan Helferty, Liam Burns, Susan Nash, James Pickin, Dannie Grufferty, Olivia Bailey, Estelle Hart, Thomas Graham, Pete Woodward, Dante Micheaux, Paul Tobin.
Against the Amendment	Usman Ali, Ed Marsh, Pete Mercer, Sophia James, Rupy Kaur, Ben Whittaker, Paddy Stearn, Luke Young, Ryan Wain, Katie Dalton, Shane Chown, Toni Pearce, Christina Yan Zhang.

The amendment **passed** 22 to 13



minutes

Amendment 3

Alan Bailey spoke for the Amendment
Ciarnan Helferty spoke against the Amendment

Open contribution were taken from Susan Nash (SN) SRR, Dannie Grufferty (DG), VB, EM, Shane Chowen (SC), Sophia James (SJ), Paul Tobin (PT), Kanja Sesay (KS) and AB.

There was a call for a recorded vote

For the Amendment	Sean Rillo-Raczka, Kanja Sesay, Anil Sachdeo, Joshua McKenzie, Alan Bailey, Vicki Baars, Aakash Naik, Liam Preston, Robin Parker, Stevie Wise, Liam Burns, Dannie Grufferty, Estelle Hart,
Against the Amendment	Usman Ali, Ed Marsh, Pete Mercer, Sophia James, Rupy Kaur, Ben Whittaker, Paddy Stearn, Luke Young, Ryan Wain, Katie Dalton, Shane Chowen, Toni Pearce, Christina Yan Zhang, Thomas Graham, Pete Woodward, Dante Micheaux, Paul Tobin, Adrienne Peltz, Susan Nash, James Pickin, Ciarnan Helferty, Olivia Bailey

The amendment **fell** 13 for, 22 against

Amendment 4

Sean Rillo-Raczka spoke for the amendment.
Shane Chowen spoke against the amendment.
Councillors were reminded not to interrupt speakers and to treat each other with respect.

EM called for the parts "to support UCU strike action this year and call days of action in support of UCU's action over jobs and pensions" be referred to the next NEC meeting.
SRR spoke against the parts.

The parts were passed and moved to the next NEC meeting.

LB, SRR, SC and VB gave contributions on Amendment 4. A recorded vote was called.

For the Amendment	Sean Rillo-Raczka, Kanja Sesay, Anil Sachdeo, Joshua McKenzie, Alan Bailey, Vicki Baars
Against the Amendment	Usman Ali, Ed Marsh, Pete Mercer, Sophia James, Ben Whittaker, Paddy Stearn, Luke Young, Ryan Wain, Katie Dalton, Shane Chowen, Toni Pearce, Christina Yan Zhang, Thomas Graham, Pete Woodward, Dante Micheaux, Paul Tobin, Adrienne Peltz, Susan Nash, James Pickin, Ciarnan Helferty, Olivia Bailey Aakash Naik, Liam Preston, Robin Parker, Stevie Wise, Liam Burns, Dannie Grufferty.
Abstain	Rupy Kaur
Not present in room	Estelle Hart

The amendment **fell** 7 for, 27 against, 1 abstention.

Amendment 5

Shane Chowen took the chair

Liam Burns spoke for the motions
Vicki Baars spoke against the motion.



minutes

Contributions were taken from EM, PW, AP, LB, KS, VB, CH, SN, SRR.

The Amendment passed.

Amendment 6

Aaron Porter resumed the chair.

Anil Sachdeo spoke for the amendment.

Aaron Porter spoke against the amendment.

Contributions were taken by AB, KS, RP, SRR, BW, SJ

Aaron Porter promised to report to the next NEC on the policy discussions with the government before and during the Browne Review.

The Amendment fell.

Amendment 7

Sean Rillo-Raczka spoke for the amendment.

Dannie Grufferty called for parts on CR 3 "To have an open discussion within this NEC meeting on the police brutality, and the NUS response."

The parts passed.

Toni Pearce spoke against the amendment.

Contributions were taken from CH, VB, SN and BW.

The Amendment fell.

Substantive motion as amended

Alan Bailey called for parts to remove on NEC believes 5 "It has been widely reported that some on those demonstrations were bent on violence" and NEC further believes 7 "Some of the actions of some on demonstrations and in occupations have harmed, not progressed, our cause. Violent demonstrators have lost us considerable public support."

Susan Nash spoke against the parts.

The parts fell.

No one spoke against the motion as amended.

The motion passed.



minutes

APPENDIX A

The way forward for the Education Funding Campaign

NEC Believes

1. Both houses of parliament have now approved a £9,000 limit on Higher Education Undergraduate Tuition Fees.
2. This happened despite an unprecedented mass campaign from NUS that has united students, lecturers and the general public and the largest student demonstration in a generation.
3. The student movement should be proud that the NUS/UCU National Demonstration on 10 November sparked an unprecedented wave of student activism.
4. The policing of both the NUS/UCU Demonstration and subsequent demonstrations has been widely questioned.
5. It has been widely reported that some on those demonstrations were bent on violence.
6. The changes to fees levels have to be seen in the wider context of savage cuts to education and public services.
7. The TUC have asked NUS and UCU to help build for a wider Rally on youth opportunities in Manchester on the 29th January.
8. Cuts programmes inside HEIs continue and will only get worse in the new year.
9. A significant number of new student activists have emerged out of the campaign.
10. The removal of the EMA will devastate retention and achievement in FE and destroy access to universities by the poorest.
11. Aim Higher has been mooted to close.
12. A white paper on fees is due out in the new year.
13. That students' unions in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland gave their full support to the
14. Vote For Students campaign and National Demonstration, with considerable success. Wins in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (such as scrapping tuition fees for domiciled students, saving EMA, improved student support and commitments to covering the increase in tuition fees for domiciled students) all contribute to current and future campaign wins in England.
15. The devolved assembly and parliamentary elections in 2011 should be as much of a priority for NUS UK as the "Vote For Students" campaign was for NUS Scotland, Wales and NUS-USI.
16. The £4000+ per year difference between tuition fees in England and Scotland will understandably lead to more English students applying to Scotland. It would not be right for a decision taken at Westminster to squeeze out Scottish students from attending university.
17. The devolved administrations have now been forced to consider how to deal with cross-border flow of English students understandably looking to avoid increased tuition fees.
18. That colleges and universities in devolved administrations have also had their funding cut. NUS UK should aim to support students' unions who face cuts across the UK.

NEC Further Believes

1. Our principal duty is to work to secure our members' interests.
2. Our struggle on cuts to education and public services must now be bound up firmly with the wider trade union and social movement.
3. The prospect of £9,000 fees heightens and makes more urgent the need to radically improve student rights on campus and the regulation of HEIs.
4. Students' unions need real, substantial help now on understanding and fighting cuts in their institution.



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5. The TUC protest and rally on 29 January will be held in Manchester- home to the largest FE College and HE institution in the country and sits in a region with the highest rate of youth unemployment in the country.
6. Some of the actions of some on demonstrations and in occupations have harmed, not progressed, our cause. Violent demonstrators have lost us considerable public support.
7. Some of the policing tactics in use at student demos in November and December exacerbated tension and violence and prevented peaceful students from demonstrating.
8. At a time when there is still so much to campaign for, there has never been a more important time for maximum unity, and not doing so is unhelpful and damaging to students.
9. Students in FE face a double whammy- 16-18 transport subsidies are to be cut in local authorities and learner support funds don't support travel costs.

NEC Resolves

1. To support the TUC protest and rally for youth opportunities on 29 January in Manchester
2. Continuing to work with UCU and other trade unions through the TUC is vital to ensure we are part of a wider campaign.
3. To prioritise mobilisation amongst students for the 26th March TUC national demonstration in the first term.
4. To launch a local mobilisation and partnership strategy with trade unions and social groups aimed at developing activism over cuts in local constituencies.
5. To mandate the VP Higher Education to launch an anti cuts strategy with a detailed toolkit and advice available from NUS staff and officers, relevant to students' unions across the entire UK.
6. To support the VP Further Education in continued prioritisation of the campaign to save EMA, cuts to FE and the fight for local travel subsidies for young people.
7. To call for a detailed enquiry must be held into Policing tactics used on demonstrations in November/December.
8. To continue to publically condemn inappropriate police tactics like kettling (containment) and horse charging.
9. To lobby for increased student rights and protections in the White Paper
10. To push the Government to ensure that there is a more comprehensive system of student support, effective outreach given the new fee regime.
11. To continue to fight to save the EMA and to lobby to ensure that colleges are able to assist students with transport costs in the future.
12. To launch a major campaign aimed at protecting Aim Higher and ensuring that efforts to improve WP measure universities' success at retention and acceptances rather than just applications.
13. To develop a detailed long term strategy aimed at reversing the damaging marketisation and loss of public funding about to be inflicted on HE.
14. To mandate NUS UK officers to commit time and resource to supporting campaigns in the devolved assembly and parliamentary elections.
15. In public comments, to criticise the Westminster Government for any need to consider increasing fees for non-domiciled students in the nations, not the devolved administrations.
16. That this NEC asks the President to publically support actions not organised by NUS that do not damage our campaign goals, members reputation or students safety. Should actions do so, then the President has our full support to distance NUS and students' unions from such actions.



minutes

APPENDIX B – composited motions

Amendment 1 (ADD Amendment)

Proposed by: Liam Burns, Pete Woodward, Estelle Hart

Speech for: Liam Burns

Council Believes:

1. That students' unions in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland gave their full support to the
2. Vote For Students campaign and National Demonstration, with considerable success. Wins in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (such as scrapping tuition fees for domiciled students, saving EMA, improved student support and commitments to covering the increase in tuition fees for domiciled students) all contribute to current and future campaign wins in England. The devolved assembly and parliamentary elections in 2011 should be as much of a priority for NUS UK as the "Vote For Students" campaign was for NUS Scotland, Wales and NUS-USI. The £4000+ per year difference between tuition fees in England and Scotland will understandably lead to more English students applying to Scotland. It would not be right for a decision taken at Westminster to squeeze out Scottish students from attending university. The devolved administrations have now been forced to consider how to deal with cross-border flow of English students understandably looking to avoid increased tuition fees.
3. That colleges and universities in devolved administrations have also had their funding cut. NUS UK should aim to support students' unions who face cuts across the UK.

NEC Resolves:

1. To insert in Resolves: 'To mandate NUS UK officers to commit time and resource to supporting campaigns in the devolved assembly and parliamentary elections.'
2. To Insert in Resolves: "In public comments, to criticise the Westminster Government for any need to consider increasing fees for non-domiciled students in the nations, not the devolved administrations."
3. To insert at the end of NEC Resolves 6: "... ,relevant to students' unions across the entire UK."

Amendment 2

Proposed by: Liam Burns, Stevie Wise

Speech for: Liam Burns

Interrelationship with Main Motion:

Deletes NB 9, NFB 5, NR3

NEC Believes:

1. That it is right that NUS and students' unions focus on the TUC Rally on Youth opportunities in Manchester on 29th January. Continually holding London-centric actions disenfranchises many students' unions due to geography and cost of travel, and this NEC welcomes the fact that NUS will be organising for an event outside of London.
2. While our focus, resources and communications should be focussed on the TUC rally, that does not preclude other protests happening in other parts of the country. NUS should never knowingly put students or students' unions in a position where the safety or reputation could be compromised. This NEC urges that other groups looking to organise action work under the same premise, and will be publically supportive or



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unsupportive on that basis, but ultimately NUS cannot and should not seek to monopolise all action over cuts and education funding.

NEC Resolves:

1. To delete NEC Believes 9: "The NCAFC/EAN have suggested that NUS hold a National Demonstration in London on 29th January."
2. To delete from NEC Further Believes 5: "...A further national demonstration in London on fees, EMAs and cuts on the 29th January would be the wrong tactic at the wrong time."
3. To delete NEC Resolves 3: "To reject calls from the NCAFC/EAN to hold a London based National Demo on January 29th."

Amendment 3

Proposed by: Alan Bailey and Vicki Baars, Mark Bergfeld, Sean Rillo Raczka
Speech for: Alan Bailey

Interrelationship with Main Motion: Deletes NB 9, NFB 5, NR3

Council believes:

1. That to reject a national demonstration on the 29th Jan in London can only have a negative effect.
2. That to do this will only be seen as an attempt by NUS to split the movement.
3. Some people may think it's unfortunate that there are two demonstrations going on at the same time but the reality is that they are happening.
4. To reject the calls will undo work by student activists fighting for the same cause.
5. We should support student led action on issues we agree on and have policy on.
6. NUS can chose to mobilise heavily for Manchester but this does not to be at the detriment of the London demonstration.
7. It's good that NUS is putting recourses into a national action outside of London.

Council Resolves

1. To support the national demonstration in London on the 29th January which adds to and supports the TUC rally and protest on Manchester on the same day

Amendment 4 (ADD Amendment)

Proposed by: Mark Bergfeld, Sean Rillo Raczka, Kanja Sesay
Speech for: Sean Rillo Raczka

Council Resolves

1. To ADD to NEC resolves "support DAY X walk-outs and student strikes on January 26th in defense of EMA"
2. To ADD to NEC resolves "to support UCU strike action this year and call days of action in support of UCU's action over jobs and pensions"

Amendment 5

Proposed by: Liam Burns, Stevie Wise
Speech for: Liam Burns

NEC Resolves

1. To insert: "That this NEC asks the President to publically support actions not organised by NUS that do not damage our campaign goals, members reputation or students safety. Should actions do so, then the President has our full support to distance NUS and students' unions from such actions."



minutes

Amendment 6

Proposed by: Joshi Sachdeo, Sean Rillo Raczka, Javed Anjum Sheikh, Joshua McKenzie, Kanja Sesay

Speech for: Joshi

Council Notes:

1. Proposals were submitted to the Government to identify cuts under the NUS's name, including directly by the President.
2. No such proposals were tabled to the NEC for discussion prior to submission.

Council Resolves:

1. The President should outline such proposals in detail within this NEC meeting.
2. All proposals submitted to the Government, by email or letter, must be made available, in their entirety, to the NEC within seven days of this meeting.

Amendment 7

Proposed by: Sean Rillo Raczka, Joshi Sachdeo, Javed Anjum Sheikh, Joshua McKenzie, Kanja Sesay

Speech for: Sean

Council Resolves:

1. To call another National Demo
2. That the NUS focus its resources in more militantly fighting against HE and FE cuts.
3. To have an open discussion within this NEC meeting on the police brutality, and the NUS response.

