

NUS National Executive Council AGENDA

Twenty First meeting of the National Executive Council of the National Union of Students,
27th November 2012, UNISON Centre, 130 Euston Road, London NW1 2AY
1.00pm – 2.00pm Lunch
11 am – 5 pm

Members:	Name
President & Chair	Liam Burns
Zones	Toni Pearce & Jeni-Marie Pittuck (Further Education) Rachel Wenstone & Rachel Thornton (Higher Education); Danielle Grufferty & Dom Anderson (Society & Citizenship); Vicki Baars & Maggie Hayes (Union Development); Pete Mercer & Colum McGuire (Welfare)
Liberation	Aaron Kiely & Malia Bouattia (Black Students); Hannah Paterson & Daryl Jones (Disabled Students); Sky Yarlett & Finn Mc Goldrick (LGBT); Kelley Temple & Jo Johnson (Womens);
Sections	Daniel Stevens & Dennis Esch (International Students) Sean Rillo Razcka & Fee Wood (Mature & Part Time Students); Robin Burrett & Luke James (Postgraduate Students)
Nations	Stephanie Lloyd & Sam Reid (NUS Wales) Robin Parker & Graeme Kirkpatrick (NUS Scotland); Adrienne Peltz (NUS-USI)
Block	Aidan Mersh, Alex Causton-Ronaldson, Caroline Dangerfield, Emma Meehan, Jake Kitchiner, Jamil Keating, Jamie Woodcock, Joe Vinson, Mark Seward, Matt Stanley, Michael Chessum, Mike Williamson, Reni Eddo-Lodge, Roshni Joshi, Surya Prakashsh Bhatta
In attendance	
Staff	Matt Hyde (Group Chief Executive); Jim Dickinson (Director Policy and Delivery); Vic Langer (Deputy Director Policy and Delivery); Dan Francis (Democratic Services Advisor); ACTS representative

If an item is 'starred' the Chair will assume that members have read and noted. Those presenting the papers will not speak to them. Non starred items will be discussed and may require a decision. To "unstar" an item, inform the Chair before the commencement of the meeting.

No	Item	Action	Paper	Author / Lead	Time
1 Introductory & Administration					
1.1	President's Opening Remarks			LB	10 mins
1.2	Apologies for absence and welcome of new members	Note		LB	
1.3	Disclosure of potential conflicts of interest arising from the agenda (verbal)				
1.4	Minutes of last meeting on 28 th September	Approve	NEC/21A/12	LB	
1.5	Matters arising from previous meeting on 28 th September			LB	
2 Reports and Accountability					
2.1	Report and Notices from the National President* Questions to the National President Presidential and Other Appointments	Scrutinise	NEC/21B/12	LB	10 mins
2.2	Report/ Priorities and Notices from the Zone Convenors* Questions to the Zone Convenors	Scrutinise	NEC/21C-G/12	VB, PM, TP, RW, DG	15 mins
2.3	Report/ Priorities and Notices from the Liberation Campaigns* Questions to the Liberation Campaigns	Note	NEC/21H-L/12	AK, HP, SY/FM, KT	15 mins
2.4	Report/ Priorities and Notices from the Student Sections* Questions to the Student Sections	Note	NEC/21M-O/12	DS, SR, LJ	15 mins
2.5	Report and Notices from the Nation Convenors* Questions to the Nation Convenors	Note	NEC/21P-R/12	RP, AP, SL	10 mins
2.6	Report and Notices from the Scrutiny & Special Groups*	Scrutinise			5 mins
2.7	Important information from CMs from the Block	Report	Verbal	Block	15 mins
3 Motions and Proposals					
3.2	Update on Estimates 2013/14	Discuss	NEC/21T/12	RW	30 mins
3.3	Rules Review Consultation <i>Block Paper</i>	Discuss	NEC/21U/12	LB	30 mins
3.4	ES 4 - Ethical & Environmental – <i>postponed from September</i>	Approve	NEC/21V/12	DG	20 mins
3.5	Charity Plan	Discuss	NEC/21W/12	VB	15 mins
3.6	Nations KPI's	Note	NEC/21X/12		15 mins
3.7	Plan for ODP	Approve	NEC/21Y/12	LB	15 mins
3.8	Regulating motion submission and democratic debate	Discuss	NEC/21Z/12	LB	15 mins
3.9	Motions to NEC	Debate	NEC/21i/12	LB	60 mins

minutes & resolutions

meeting of: National Executive Council (nineteenth meeting)

place: Senate House, University of London

date and time: 26th September 2012, 11am

Members:

President & Chair
Zones

Name

Liam Burns

Toni Pearce (Further Education)

Paul Abernethy (Higher Education);

James Haywood (Society & Citizenship);

Vicki Baars (Union Development);

Pete Mercer (Welfare);

Liberation

Aaron Kiely & Malia Bouattia (Black Students);

Hannah Paterson & Daryl Jones (Disabled Students);

Finn McGoldrick & Sky Yarlett (LGBT);

Kelley Temple & Jo Johnson (Womens);

Sections

Daniel Stevens and Dennis Esch (International Students);

Fee Wood (Mature & Part Time Students);

Robin Burrett & Luke James (Postgraduate Students);

Nations

Stephanie Lloyd & Sam Reid (NUS Wales);

Robin Parker & Stacey Devine (NUS Scotland);

Adrienne Peltz & Claire Flanagan (NUS-USI);

Block

Alex Causton-Ronaldson, Michael Chessum, Caroline Dangerfield, Reni Eddo-Lodge, Roshni Joshi, Jake Kitchiner, Jamil Keating, Emma Meehan, Aidan Mersh, Mark Seward, Matt Stanley, Joe Vinson, Mike Williamson, Jamie Woodcock

In attendance:
Staff

Matt Hyde (Group Chief Executive), Jim Dickinson (Director Policy and Delivery); Vic Langer (Assistant Director Policy and Delivery); Simon Rayner (Director of Communications and Marketing); Graeme Wise Assistant Director (Policy); Dan Francis (Democratic Services Advisor)

Apologies:

Rachel Wenstone, Stacey Devine, Caroline Dangerfield, Danielle Grufferty, Claire Flanagan, Mike Williamson

Absent without
apologies

Sean Rillo-Razcka, Surya Prakash Bhatta, Kyra Murison

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1. Introductory & Administration

- 1.1 Liam Burns (LB) opened the meeting and welcomed Paul Abernethy (PA)
- 1.2 Apologies were noted.
- 1.3 There were no declarations of interests.
- 1.4 The minutes of the NEC meeting 21st July were approved.
- 1.5 There were no matters arising.

2. Reports and accountability

- 2.1 LB presented his report to the NEC.

LB outlined that following the high court ruling on Friday 21st September NUS had welcomed UKBA's decision to allow London Met students to complete their course or continue to study up until the end of the academic year (2012/13). LB explained that NUS had filed a third party intervention in the London Met case and acted as independent experts. LB emphasised the importance of the intervention in the successful outcome of the case, but explained how the decision to do so had been both politically and financially significant. LB estimated the current cost of the intervention was around £30,000.

LB added that NUS was now turning pressure onto the Home Office to give certainty that students already enrolled are allowed to stay at London Met to finish their courses.

LB congratulated London Met Students' Union on its campaign and asked NEC formally to commend the work of Daniel Stevens (DS) in the area. NEC unanimously commended DS.

Alex Causton-Ronaldson (ACR) asked why NEC union allocations had been realised late. LB accepted that there had been a delay and apologised to the block. LB outlined that over the last few weeks his work had been focused on London Met and mobilising for the national demo. LB added that for the first time an email had been sent to all of NUS's membership outlining the NEC meeting and linking to the block allocation. LB explained that this type of communication would continue and expand in order to open NEC meetings up to the membership.

The report was *approved*

- 2.2 The Zone Convenors presented their reports, the following questions and issues were raised:

Union Development – Vicki Baars (VB) declared that she had received tickets to attend a honorary doctorate ceremony for Desmond Tutu.

Society and Citizenship – Danielle Grufferty (DG) sent apologies to the meeting.

Higher Education – Rachel Wenstone (RW) sent apologies to the meeting.

Welfare – Pete Mercer (PM) added that the accommodation cost survey had now received the highest response rate ever.

Further Education – Toni Pearce (TP) explained that, although the campaign had secured over £50m in concessions, the no to FE fees campaign was not over and that the next phase would be launched at Festival.

The reports were *approved*

- 2.3 The Liberation Officers presented their reports to note.

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2.4 The Sections presented their reports.

2.5 The Nations presented their reports to note.

2.6 There were no reports or notices from Scrutiny or Special Groups.

LB asked for any final notes of interest in the ARAF committee to be sent ASAP.

2.7 There were no issues raised from block

3. Motions and Proposals

3.1 Nominations Committee Election

LB announced the reopened elections for nominations committee would be conducted by email over the next week. Liam encouraged members of the NEC to stand and vote in the election.

3.2 Comms Scrutiny Group

LB explained that in order to ensure joined up working but not to pre-empt any decisions made by the rules review process the Comms Scrutiny group would now take place at the same time as the NUSSL Comms group. LB asked for expressions of interest in joining the group.

3.3 Triennial Rules Review

LB introduced the paper from Democratic Procedures Committee (DPC), highlighting the letter he had sent to Steven Findley (DPC chair). LB drew attention to the lead officer for each of the thematic areas in the review. He reminded NEC that the rules review is ownership of DPC but that any review of NUSSL belongs to the limited companies' shareholders. LB also highlighted that Robin Parker (RP) had been appointed to run the review of London as he is politically removed and has experience of devolved administrations.

LB outlined three key questions for NEC to consider

1. Firstly, how would NEC like to be consulted on effectiveness of NEC?

NEC were invited to submit responses to the online membership survey. Michael Chessum (MC) argued that there should be an offline way to feed in by submitting papers for discussion. NEC discussed the importance of needing time to understand and think about the constitutional issues. LB agreed to discuss the rules review in more depth at the next NEC.

2. What issues do you think should be covered?

NEC discussed the thematic areas outlined in the paper and broadly agreed with DPCs approach. MC also outlined his particular interest in the size and role of block. LB agreed to circulate the former block member, Joe Oliver's, paper and let new block members feed in.

[Action – LB]

Aaron Kiely (AK) outlined his concern over the size of conference arguing that the smaller the conference the less representative of the membership.

NEC also discussed concern over motions which do not get discussed at conferred.

Luke James (LJ) argued that NUS has a year of action ahead and the rules review should not dominate the year. MC agrees but said he felt there was a real appetite for the review.

3. What information do you need?

Steph Johnson suggested pulling some of the membership survey results and brining these for discussion at the next NEC. *[Action – LB]*.

Vicki Baars (VB) outlined the importance of the process remaining open and suggested that a report should be produced on lessons from the review. Sky Yarlett (SY) requested that NEC ask DPC to share conference satisfaction data from DPC. *[Action – LB]*.

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3.4 NUS Charity*

LB notified NEC that this paper would be brought to the next NEC.

3.5 Zones, Liberation, Sections Plans & Budgets

Mark Seward (MS) – raised concern over the KPI for the Individual Electoral Reform Campaign in the Soc & Cit zone. NEC agreed that the wording should change to 10 unions in key seats have election registration drives.

MC raised concern that a KPI, under the priority campaign, of 10,000 students attending the national demonstration was not ambitious enough, suggesting instead a number closer to the last national demonstration. NEC discussed the practicalities of raising the number and the importance of keeping numbers. SJ argued that the KPI should focus on the change in public opinion following the demonstration suggesting that impacts are more important than the number itself.

The NEC agreed to remove the number of participants as the KPI and instead asked LB to send a more suitable KPI around NEC which reflected the outcome of the demonstration [*Action – LB*]

The CEO report and operating plan from the last trustee board will be circulated for NEC to note. [*Action – LB*]

NEC Approved the Plans and Budgets, pending the adjustments discussed.

3.6 Detailed internal budgets*

NEC Noted the detailed internal budgets

3.7 Board KPI's*

NEC Noted the KPI's

3.8 National Demonstration Update

LB presented the paper and highlighted two key areas for debate; Individual legal advice and NUS's position on violence. Positions on both were important as students' unions had raised these questions over the summer and the Trustee Board had asked for clarity on the resources the NEC wished to make available, as this would have implications for financial planning. LB explained that NUS would take every step to mitigate against the risk of violent behaviour, both from police and protestors, however a clear stance on both was needed before the event itself.

LB proposed in the paper that NUS should not guarantee individual legal support as this would both set expectations that NUS potentially could not meet and expose NUS to unlimited financial risk. The paper also proposed that the public position of NUS on violence (in terms of vandalism of property, harm or intimidation) should be that it does not help our cause and we would not support such activity.

MC argued that there is a distinction between vandalism and violence to people. VB agreed but suggested LB take the line that both were unlawful activity.

Jamie Woodcock (JW) outlined his support that NUS was working with Defend the Right to Protest.

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RP suggested that NUS's messaging should centre around proportional responses and ensuring that behaviour by police which exasperated the situation was called out.

Robin Burrett (RB) argued that NUS shouldn't comment until all the facts were clear.

LB ensured that there was clarity over the questions being put in paper. The NEC voted and agreed. LB agreed to amend wording to make clear that whilst NUS would not support violent action, should such activity take place we should be clear on the proportionality of the incidents, both from protestors and police.

NEC approved on the paper

3.9 Initial Review of ODP*

NEC noted the paper Initial Review of ODP

3.10 NUS Brand Paper Approve

LB presented the brand positioning paper, highlighting recommended positioning. LB reiterated that the brand review was the product of extensive consultation with the membership and stakeholders.

Sam Reid (SR) expressed her dislike of the wording "Pragmatically provocative". ACR argued that the branding didn't seem to make NUS stand out from other third sector organisations. LB disagreed outlining the key messaging and the ambition sections of the paper. MC raised a concern around the use of the terms "fairer more prosperous society" although this did not receive much support.

LB would ensure such concerns were taken account of as the proposition was worked into copy.

NEC approved the Brand Proposition Paper

3.11 Paper on the Future of Education

LB presented the paper and invited Graeme Wise (GW) NUS Assistant Director (Policy) to answer questions.

JW asked how teachers and lecture unions would be consulted. GW outlined that this was the very start of the project and the trade unions would be consulted throughout the process, agreeing that there are areas we can build consensus.

RP agreed that having a vision for education was essential but that NUS also needed to think about how this would be translated in areas of devolved government. LB agreed but suggested that the overall vision should be the same.

SY argued that it is often difficult to engage some groups of students on this issue but that any vision should involve students from all background.

AP argued that in the present system inequality starts in the hospital bed and that the education system mirrors this. GW suggested that education should be about both making people effective and making sure people are liberated, NEC agreed that these concepts should be interlinked.

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Jo Johnson (JJ) emphasised the need for flexibility in education and the need for breath and depth of subject area. NEC agreed that education should be more holistic and that student choice shouldn't force a very specialised education.

NEC asked how the vision for education would be both reflective of existing policy and given a mandate through national conference. LB explained NUS currently thinks within current structures and that whilst any vision should be reflective of policy we need to think outside of current frameworks. LB agreed that there would need to be policy to ensure that this work lives longer than one or two NEC's.

NEC broadly agreed with the concepts of the paper and the project.

3.6 Motions to NEC

Motion 1 We are London met

Proposing speech DS

Amendment1:

Speech for RB
Speech against Not taken

Reni Eddo-Lodge (REL) call for parts on amendment: remove NEC Resolves 6

Speech for REL
Speech against JW

Speech for ACR
Speech against Ak

Vote on parts: call for recorded vote

Keep	Jamil Keatin, Robin Burrett, Matt Stanley, Aaron Kiely, Malia Bouattia, Luke James, Michael Chessum, James Haywood, Jamie Woodcock, Daryl Jones, Vicki Baars
Remove	Finn McGoldrick, Hannah Paterson, Pete Mercer, Adrienne Peltz, Jo Johnson, Stephanie Lloyd, Toni Pearce, Sam Reid, Alex Causton-Ronaldson, Reni Eddo-Lodge, Fee Wood, Mark Seward, Joe Vinson, Emma Meehan, Aidan Mersh, Steph Johnson, Daniel Stevens, Robin Parker
Abstain	Sky Yarlett, Kelley Temple

Vote on Parts: Parts removed

Vote on amendment: Passes, parts removed

Vote on Motion: Motions as amendment passes parts removed

Motion 2: Let London met students study

Speech for AK
Speech against DS

Vote on Motion: Motions falls

Motion 3 has been removed from the minutes for legal reasons

Motion 4: Liberty and legal observing

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Speech for: MC

Amendment 1:

Speech for: HP

Speech against: MC

Vote on amendment: Passes

Speech against: Not taken

Vote on motion: Passes amended

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Resolutions

We Are London Met

NEC Believes:

1. The UK Border Agency (UKBA) has revoked London Metropolitan University's (LMU) "*Highly Trusted Status*." This will mean that non-EEA (international) students will have 60 days from receiving a letter of curtailment from UKBA to either enrol in a new institution or leave the country unless a legal challenge is successful.
2. UKBA claim that this is justified by "systemic failures" in LMUs ability to monitor attendance, language abilities and *Leave to Remain* status of its international students. Other than legal action, which LMU has initiated, the institution has no power to reverse the decision. Legislation does not allow for Government to reverse the decision unless forced to do so via Judicial Review.
3. NUS has secured a position on the Taskforce convened by David Willetts (Minister of State for Universities and Science) to support LMU students through the financial, academic and pastoral consequences of this decision, both for students who are forced to find a new institution and those students left behind.
4. International students are currently included in the Governments statistics on net migration, following UN convention that migrants are defined as any individual staying in a country not of their origin for more than a year and one day. Numerous reports have criticised this practice including the Higher Education Policy Institute, the Business, Innovation and Skills Select Committee and Public Accounts Committee.
5. Notes NUS Policy 207 "International FE" and 607 "Against Discriminatory Immigration," as well as LMU Students' Union belief that students should be allowed to continue at the university.
6. The threats to deport 2,600 students from LMU are the result of the government's racist immigration policies combining with processes of privatisation taking place both at LMU and across other universities.

NEC Further Believes:

1. International students must be allowed to continue their studies at LMU. Current legislation does not allow Government to reverse the decision themselves but NUS could act as an "*Intervener*" in LMUs Judicial Review and legally force the Government to allow students to continue at the institution, ensuring the student voice is fully represented in court and setting a precedent to stop UKBA making similar decisions at other institutions. The significance of this case justifies the high costs such an action would incur.
2. Should it become clear that the institution could have taken action to avoid this situation, NUS should support the students' union in holding LMU management to account. Our current focus however should be solely on securing the future of international students at London Met.
3. Should we be unsuccessful in allowing LMU students to remain at the university, we must campaign to mitigate against detrimental financial, academic and pastoral consequences, both through the Taskforce and in forcing Government and LMU to take responsibility for their failures.
4. NUS celebrates the positive impact of both international students studying in the UK and migration as a whole. The Government have claimed that they have reduced net migration by 30,000 in 2012 however international student visas fell by 75,000. International students should be taken out of net migration counts as they are not representative of migratory trends but are used as a tool to further the deeply flawed Conservative manifesto pledge to reduce net migration "*from hundreds of thousands to tens of thousands*"
5. That LMU students' union have led a fantastic campaign against UKBA's decision, securing significant press coverage and putting us in a far stronger position to reverse the decision.

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6. . No migrants should face racist scapegoating or attacks, whether they are students or not.
7. 6. The early campaign has drawn in many students and staff from across London and the country, as illustrated by the solidarity campaign and the demonstrations.

NEC Resolves:

1. To endorse the decision to instruct legal advice on acting as an *Intervener* in the LMU Judicial Review. Should advice indicate that we would increase the chance of LMU students remaining at the university, we ask the Trustee Board to ensure resources are available to take such action. We will ensure our intervention is seen as distinct from that of LMU so we reserve the ability to hold LMU management to account.
2. To ensure students are allowed to continue their studies at LMU. We will encourage Students' Unions to lobby their MPs to sign the EDM tabled by Jeremy Corbyn MP, collect signatures for our HM Government e-petition entitled "*stop playing politics with international students*" and will use the LMU situation to mobilise international students around the country for #Demo2012, weaving the case of international students and London Met in our narrative on the Government's attacks on education.
3. To simultaneously ensure that, should our challenges to the decision not to allow LMU students to continue be unsuccessful, international students are supported in finding new institutions and home/EU students in continuing at the university academic, without being disadvantaged academically, financially or pastorally.
4. To work with trade unions, education sector bodies, colleges, universities, business, politicians and students' unions to restore the rights of international students in the UK, specifically in removing international students from net migration counts.
5. To commend LMU students' union and students' unions across the UK in their campaign to support LMU students.

Motion to NEC: Liberty and legal observing

NEC Believes:

1. Current conference and NEC policy on the right to protest, which strongly condemns policing and sentencing at student and anti-austerity protests. It also condemns the fact that attempts "to demonise protesters in the media has created a false dichotomy between good and bad protesters."
2. That Liberty provided legal observers for the TUC national demonstration on March 26th 2011. This observing covered only the 5-hour period of the demonstration after 11am.
3. That Liberty's record on legal observing on the protest drew heavy criticism from the Network for Police Monitoring and other protest organisations for being too close to both the police and the TUC. Metropolitan Police spokespeople referred to repeatedly to Liberty's role in "working with us on the planning process."
4. Liberty's report of March 26th states that it believes that the police "acted proportionately"; it makes no mention of the Fortnum and Mason arrests, and makes no mention of the police attack on the student-organised occupation of Trafalgar Square. Liberty repeatedly made no mention of these incidents in the aftermath of the protest.
5. Liberty's report of March 26th, while not mentioning the most serious police violence, much of which was unprovoked, makes a number of references to 'violent protesters' and 'violent individuals' – often in the context of "infiltration" within the demonstration – and frequently fails to distinguish between property damage and physical violence.
6. Liberty is not primarily involved in legal observing. It describes its activities as "public campaigning, test case litigation, parliamentary lobbying, policy analysis and the provision of free advice and information." Other criticisms of Liberty's conduct on the March 26th demo centred around logistical issues, and there being an inadequate number of legal observers in the streets.

NEC Further Believes

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1. That legal observers exist to monitor the police, not protesters; they should not share information with the police.
2. That any mode of legal observation which failed to maintain this role, or which was seen to be partial, would be a danger to the safety of protesters and to the unity of our movement in the streets.
3. That legal observing of our national demonstration must not be time-limited: our members' safety does not cease being an issue after the final rally.
4. That Liberty's record in observing and reporting the TUC March 26th protest is a serious cause for concern, and raises doubts over their ability to observe our demo.
5. That numerous other organisations train legal observers: for instance, the Legal Defence and Monitoring Group, the Green and Black Cross, and the Network for Police Monitoring.
6. That the student movement should be building a level of self-sufficiency in terms of legal observing, and that activists and students should get legal observer training.
7. That we should be concerned about the issues stated here, and look into the many options for legal observation, while acknowledging that NEC voted to affiliate to Liberty last year, despite acknowledgement of the concerns over 26th March
8. That Liberty and NUS have worked in partnership in the past, including when Liberty offered a vast amount of legal knowledge on the right to protest guide, of which was consulted upon with DTRTP

NEC Resolves

1. To explore the many options for legal observing on November 21st
2. To continue to work in partnership with Liberty, Green & Black cross and others on right to protest work, but to approach legal observing following 26 March with due caution
3. Whatever the outcome of the above, to encourage students and officers to undergo legal observer training with the Legal Defence and Monitoring Group, the Green and Black Cross, and the Network for Police Monitoring. Appropriate resources will be made available for this

Summary

This paper outlines matters of interest to the NEC which the President is dealing with or has taken a position on since the last NEC. The NEC are invited to:

- Canvass the views and reactions of students' unions on these issues
- Question any policy positions taken
- Make suggestions on future work concerning these issues

1) London Metropolitan University and UK Boarder Agency

(Strategic Theme: Winning on Funding and Participation)

Immediately before the last NEC, we took the decision to become a legal intervener in the London Metropolitan vs UKBA Judicial Review. The research we conducted in partnership with the students' union ultimately resulted in the Judge demanding that LMU student be allowed to remain at the university for 2012/13. We subsequently intervened on several issues relating to the caveats on student who wished to remain at London Met or in the UK regarding their visa terms and conditions. It was clear from the Judges commentary that if we had not assisted the Court by providing evidence of the impact on LMU students, they may not have taken such action.

The Judicial Review continues and nus can once again act as an intervener should we see fit. However, at this stage we believe our focus should be on the Ministers concerned to seek assurances that regardless of the outcome of the review, the 400 students that will not complete in 2012/13 should be allowed to remain at London Met – we are working with Universities UK in this regard.

Following the formal commendation the NEC passed, I'd once again like to thank Daniel Stevens, Rachel Wenstone and students' unions for their work on this issue – a substantial win that took a lot of campaigning.

Questions for the NEC:

1. Do your unions know about the London Met situation, the steps nus took and win we secured?
2. Have there been changes on campus as a result of this incident? (Attendance monitoring practice etc)

2) Policy on Consent

(Strategic Theme: Securing a Fairer Society)

We remain in contact with Mr Galloway's solicitors regarding his objection to his inclusion in a motion passed at the last NEC on sexual consent. No formal action has yet been taken. I will keep the NEC abreast of any developments but in the meantime, please point any enquiries to myself. There have been cases of Mr Galloway being invited to speak at campuses and students' unions have sought our advice on an individual basis. Our policy is one of not sharing a platform or offering him one at events at which any non-autonomous member of the NEC is responsible for. Students' unions are free to invite who they see fit. We have removed Andrew Brons MEP from the motion and apologised for his inclusion, which was by error.

Questions for the NEC:

3. Does your unions have any questions or concerns regarding our current situation with Mr Galloway?

3) National Demonstration

(Strategic Theme: Winning on Funding and Participation)

We have continued to release weekly briefings on mobilising for the Demo, and will be issuing them daily in the run up to the demo itself. We held sessions at all of the Zone Conferences, have distributed funding to colleges with little to no resources and flyeried at the TUC March. A number of the full time officers have taken part in media training to ensure we keep the focus of the demonstration on our campaign narrative. Over thirty campuses have been visited by NEC members debating, promoting or mobilising for the demonstration.

We are finalising our plan for how students can continue campaigning once they return from the demonstration and plan to publish this before the demo itself.

I gave final approval to the route which has received limited criticism mainly through twitter and one students' union raising concerns formally. I believe is right for the following reasons:

- Passes Parliament and Portcullis House where all MPs are based
- Crossing the Bridge is recognised as the high visibility for media, essential if the demonstration is to have any impact.
- The route is accessible and all efforts are being made to make it more so
- A main criticism of the route in 2010 was that it was too short. This route is longer but not as long as the TUC march
- An application to rally at Hyde Park was rejected and it is illegal to rally in Parliament Square
- Avoids seeking areas that heighten tensions as students' unions and the NEC have asked us to plan a safe demo that reduces the chances of harassment, vandalism or violence with an explicit aim of engendering public sympathy.

Questions for the NEC:

4. Are your unions happy with how the demonstration played out? (messaging, support, the route, the day itself and planned post-demo campaigning)

4) National Scholarship Programme (NSP)

(Strategic Theme: Winning on Funding and Participation)

I have attended numerous meetings and submitted evidence to the NSP Experts Steering Group calling for the NSP to be reformed so that:

- In the long term, become a centrally SLC distributed form of support
- In short term, for the amount of support known upfront
- Partial fee waivers to be taken out of the NSP offer
- Funding to be distributed on the basis of the number of students in need rather than institutional size
- To break institutional match funding which those institutions with high numbers of students from poorer backgrounds financial issues. caused

Many of these measures are being recommended to Ministers, and I'll report back once a final decision is taken.

Questions for the NEC:

5. Do your unions agree with the objectives above for the NSP?
6. What is your unions perceptions of the NSP?

5) Meetings with David Willetts and Nick Clegg

(Strategic Theme: Winning on Funding and Participation)

In our meeting with the Universities Minister, I raised the lack of protection for international students now highlighted by the London Met incident. He was also concerned about the reputational damage this had caused to UK Higher Education. We agreed to hold a round table to discuss the protections international students should expect when studying in the UK as well as what changes should be made for students to genuinely believe the UK was a welcoming place to study. I've passed this onto Daniel Stevens, International Students' Officer.

He was also supportive of the concept of a "Student Protection Bill" now that it appears an overt "HE Bill" was politically toxic. However this was unlikely to gain support unless the Deputy Prime Minister also supported it.

At our meeting with Nick Clegg I raised student financial support as a key area of work for us and he invited us to contribute to the Ministerial Working Group on Social Mobility, of which student financial support was one of his focuses. I also raised international student experience and he was sympathetic to the reform of the Post Study Work visa as being problematic. Finally, I raised the concept of a "Student Protection Bill" and although he took on our three main concerns (entrance of alternative providers, student loan terms and conditions and institutional failure) I still believe he is unlikely to allow legislation in this area.

Questions for the NEC:

7. Do your unions agree that these were the right issues to raise?
8. Do your unions want other issues raised with David Willetts or the Deputy Prime Minister?

2) Key Performance Indicators

	KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
Student Financial Support	<i>PIYP report launched in November</i>	Underway	December
	<i>3 major and/or 6 minor education recommendations adopted</i>	Not yet started	Consultation: January Proposals: February Conference: April
	<i>Joint guidance on Hidden Costs issued in March</i>	Not yet started	March
General Election 2015	<i>Students' unions report an increase in activism post #Demo2012</i>	Not yet started	Conclusion of Membership Perception Survey
	<i>Students say they are more likely to vote on education issues as a result of #Demo2012 (as a proxy for wider public)</i>	Not yet started	Conclusion of polling of students.
	<i>400 Liberation Activists trained</i>	Not yet started	January - March
	<i>3600 trained activists</i>	Not yet started	January - June

Additional

Membership Events/Meetings

Aldwych Meeting (Russell Group Unions)
Zone Conferences
Activism2012
NUS Wales Zone Conference
Zone Committee Inductions
#Demo2012
NUS Scotland Zone Conference
Marjons Students' Union (Visit requested)
Exeter Student' Union (Court Presentation)
Liverpool Hope Students' Union (#Demo2012)
Surrey Students' Union (Affiliation referendum)
Queens Belfast Students' Union (Affiliation referendum)
Oxford Students' Unions (#Demo2012 and Debate)
Southampton Students' Union (Affiliation referendum)
LSE Students' Union (#Demo2012)
Leeds Union (General)
Leeds Met Students' Union (Dissatisfaction)
Leeds College of Art (#Demo2012)
St Andrews SRC (Affiliation referendum)
Cardiff Students' Union (General)
Cardiff Metropolitan Students' Union (affiliation)
Bangor Students' Union (General)
Aberystwyth Students' Union (#Demo2012)
Kings College Students' Union (#Demo2012)

Internal

NUS Scotland Charity Board
Nominations Committee

Sector Events/Meetings

Labour Party Conference (Numerous fringes)
Times Higher Education Awards judging
Conservative Party Conference (fringes)
NSP Experts Group (student finance)
AUA Annual Lecture (Tertiary Education)
Meeting: David Willetts (International students)
Meeting: Nick Clegg (student financial support)
CUC Annual Meeting (Tertiary Education)
TUC National Demonstration
Parliamentary Living Wage Reception
Neil Stewarts Conference: Student Experience

Declaration of Gifts/Annual Leave

Dinner from Endsleigh Insurance

NUS National Executive Council TO SCRUTINISE

Officer Report

Vicki Baars (VP UD)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
DEMO2012	Ring rounds, membership communication, workshop planning organisation, promotion...
Zone Conference	Prepared content, delivered opening remarks, reports and workshops.
Activism2012	Sourced some workshops, delivered workshops, closed event.
Small and Specialist needs assessment	Designed the needs assessment process, dates in for consultation and networking.

Other achievements of my Zone

<p>Launched the Deepening Participation Report Launched the NUS and NASES (National Association of Students Employment Services) report on students working while studying Students' Unions Elections analysis Students' Unions Governance analysis Round the Clock – Representation advice & guidance poster Officer Development Programme Review</p>

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

<p>Spoke at TEAN (The Age and Education Network) meeting – 3rd Oct Tory Party conference Protest – 7th Oct Met with Youth Fight for Jobs – 10th Oct UAF Demonstration Walthamstow – 27th Oct Feminist Lobby of Parliament – 24th Oct External Media Training – 25th Oct Spoke at EAN (Education Activist Network) Conference – 28th Oct Spoke at Impact2012 (volunteering) Conference – 11th Nov Spoke at Unite the Resistance Conference -17th Nov Attended The Festival of Education – 17th Nov</p>
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Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
Clear policy stance on youth and graduate unemployment for Conference 2013 communicated widely to unions, public and policy makers	Lots of research and then consultation has taken place. Facts sheet produced to guide evidence based policy. The zone committee has begun to form recommendations	April 2013 Policy June 2013 Communicated
60 HE students' union using opportunities barometer with clear progression in impact shown by the majority of clubs	Some research into other progression monitoring systems such as 'Clubmark' has taken place.	Barometer to be created Jan onwards
Increase in number of FE unions submitting policy to National Conference	Number of FE unions who submitted last year tracked, will follow up with people who stood in elections as their engagement level suggests they are willing and confident in engaging.	March 2013
Online Training programme launched for officers	Research into online training models is underway. First online webinar planned in November as part of the new trustee training.	Dec 2012 Webinars TBC Online
Returning Officer support provided for 100 UK students' Unions and Training Delivered to 40 Deputy Returning Officers	Two events planned in December, one in the north, one in the south.	Dec 2013
Better functioning Good Governance Code with 50 unions using the tool and 'shared documents' section utilised	A review of the code is underway	Feb 2013
Formal collaborative partnership with a trade union and 50 students' Union officers joining that union	Work to be started post demo, meetings planned for the new year.	April 2013
FE (learner framework) Engagement Hub Launched	Website launched at FEstival	Sept 2013
70 officers trained on FE Leadership	70+ registered for FE leadership	Nov 2013
HE in FE students are better able to engage with their unions & unions better able to tackle experience of HE in FE students – measured	Small &/or specialist needs assessment and 2 networking days planned for Jan 2013.	Jan 2013 Events

though NSS Q23 response. NUS understands specific needs of small and specialist unions – measured through review responses.		
Joint materials produced with Defend the Right to Protest for national demo	Financial support given to Defend the Right to Protest to produce Bust Cards as well as them appearing on the App that Soc&Cit have produced.	Nov 2013

Plans before the next meeting Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Small and Specialist Needs Assessment	Two successful events with clear requirements
Employment rights & Elected officer standards panel	To have established a relationship with at least 1 trade union to begin training
Zone recommendations to conference	To have completed all the zone recommendation in time for deadline
Support unions in their post demo actions	Support unions to take action on their campus's on issues that matter to them
Arrange a timetable for a select committee on Employment jointly with Soc & Cit	To have meetings in the diary to grill stakeholders on employment issues of concern to students.

Membership Engagement: Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
Festival (28 th Sept)	To meet FE leaders and activists and present my plan of work for the year.
Elected Officer Standards Panel Working Group Meeting (14 unions) (4 th Oct)	To establish a consultat
Birmingham Guild of Students (6 th Oct)	Activist Training
Edinburgh University Students Association (7 th – 9 th Oct)	Referendum Campaign
York St John Students' Union (18 th Oct)	Spoke at programme rep training day
Guild HE event (26 th Oct)	Presented on Q23
Aberdeen College Students' Association (5 th Nov)	General catch up about programme of work in the zone especially democracy and governance work.
Aberdeen University Students' Association (5 th Nov)	As above
Robert Gordon University Union (5 th Nov)	As above
Students' Association University of the West of Scotland (6 th Nov)	As above
Reid Kerr College Students' Association (6 th Nov)	As above
Strathclyde University Students' Association (6 th Nov)	As above
Edinburgh University Students' Association (7 th Nov)	As above
Edinburgh College Students' Association (7 th Nov)	As above
London Met Students' Union (15 th Nov)	Spoke at student rep conference
Pre-demo creative banner and placard making session at ULU. (19 th Nov)	Supporting London unions who are collectively making items to bring to Demo2012

Media Engagement and External Relations: Meetings attended and media appearances made

University of Groningen Newspaper – print only London Student - University of London Newspaper – print only http://www.concourseonline.com/national-demo-should-we-stay-or-should-we-go/ http://union-news.co.uk/2012/11/britains-got-talent-but-only-if-youre-rich-and-male/ http://www.milkround.com/news-careers-advice/223174/young-people-needlessly-discouraged-from-film-tv-and-games-careers

Issues: During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

Lots of staffing related enquiries from the membership
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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

A hoodie from Strathclyde Students' Association

For the latest news follow @NUSNEC and visit www.nusconnect.org.uk/nusnec

**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Pete Mercer (VP Welfare)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Welfare Zone Conference (High Priority)	Conference completed. Officers should feel empowered to make change on campuses having attended sessions that build their (social policy) knowledge base and shared best practice; but also will feel as though they are contributing to national policy development in the 'imagining the future' sessions.
Accommodation Cost Survey (High Priority)	Survey report launched online, as well as published and printed. Held launch at a UNIPOL conference where I debated with other student accommodation stakeholders. Unions will be equipped with national/regional/local statistics, as well as with advice on lobbying tactics to be able to challenge their institutions and local authorities on cost and affordability.
Pound In Your Pocket (High Priority)	Full report being written and designed, to be launched on the 5 th December. Officers will have comprehensive (and I mean comprehensive!) research on the experiences of students and finance, and hardship particularly, including evidence for lobbying on access agreements. Recommendations will also provide foundations for policy on student finance.
Low Pay Commission (Medium Priority)	Reported to the Low Pay Commission lobbying for the equalisation of minimum wage across ages, including proper payment for apprentices beyond the £2.65 p/h current national minimum wage in England. If recommendations accepted, young workers (including apprentices and student workers) should see a rise in minimum wage for next year.
Faith Representation (Low Priority)	Organised a national Student Sikh Conference and attended Understanding Jewish Students events. Best practice on faith group needs and interaction was shared, which should see students of these faiths better catered for on campuses.
Travel Subsidy (Medium Priority)	Lobbied a number of MPs (Simon Hughes, Lillian Greenwood, Ian Swales) for support on establishing travel subsidies for young people to access college. If successful, impact would obviously be massive – but too early to tell, work in progress.
Police and Crime Commissioner Elections (Medium-High Priority)	Released a briefing about interacting with candidates and engaging students/mobilising them to vote, including a breakdown of some of the main local issues affecting students under this remit. Also held a PCC debate at zone conference.

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
Accommodation Costs Survey Report produced	Done	
Launch of NeighbourHub	Not done yet	Feb 13
NUS Group signed up to Time to Change pledge	HR in NUS interacting with TTC to scope pledge	Jan 13
Best practice guide to Healthy FE produced	Not started	March 13
10 candidates have documented interaction with Sus/make statement about students in Police and Crime Commissioner Elections	Anecdotally aware of around 8 hustings with SUs, with multiple candidates at each meaning target has easily been passed, but need to collate documented evidence.	Dec 12
Grants issued to 10 students' unions to organise interfaith activities	Done. Grants have been awarded to 15 SUs (including 5 FE colleges)	
30 students' unions implemented external speaker guidelines	Know it's happening in a widespread way, but don't have evidence yet.	?
5 sites get blocked as a result of SU lobbying	Work not started	?
Government clarifies what is meant by	Work not started	Feb 13

'reasonable grounds' for searches and returns to pre-reform policies		
Islamic students and others with specific objections to interest can access FE/HE loans	Liam met with David Willett's, progress made, political argument won but logistics still need to be sorted	?

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Pound In your Pocket	Full Research report launched online with printed infographics, and recommendations released
Accommodation Cost Survey	Produced a guide for using the report and launched an umbrella campaign for unions to take action under
Time To Change	To have established and signed a pledge on mental health for NUS
Regional Cost Workshops	To have planned a series of regional workshops aimed at empowering unions to take action on a range of things relating to costs, from accommodation to travel – as well as digesting PIYP recommendations.

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
28/9 Festival	Spoke about welfare zone
3/10 British Association for Sexual Health and HIV	Fed in student perspective
8/10 Birmingham Guild Anti-Bullying/Harassment event	Speaker
9/10 Prior Pursglove College	Supporting No Free Lunch campaign
9/10 Redcar & Cleveland College	Supporting No Free Lunch Campaign
9/10 Liverpool Guild Life Forum	Speaker about demo
23/10 Sikh Student Conference	Opened event
24/10 Understanding Jewish Students conference	Speaker
6/11 Liverpool Hop Demo forum	Speaker about demo
9/11 Accommodation Cost Survey report launch	Launched report & on panel debate
11/11 Zone Committee Induction	Inducted new committee

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

27/9 BBC News tv interview on the NSS
27/9 Third Sector Awards Ceremony, nominated for our partnership work with Drinkaware
1/10 Labour Party Conference, lobbying MPs
16/10 Local Democracy Week Parliamentary event
18/10 SRHE student housing conference
18/10 UNIPOL student housing conference, impact of student numbers on accommodation
20/10 TUC demonstration
1/11 Meeting with MP Simon Hughes about young people and travel subsidies
3/11 Action for Southern Africa AGM
7/11 Living Wage parliament reception
8/11 Reported to the Low Pay Commission
8/11 Meeting with Association of Chief Police Officers about Prevent and our policy
8/11 North London Citizens Assembly

Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

None

**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Toni Pearce (VP FE)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Organising for #demo2012	Ringrounds and union visits to encourage people to mobilise for the demo/coordinating travel fund for the demo
FE Leadership	Organising FE Leadership course and pushing registration
Festival	Organising an event to introduce FE officers and students to the student movement, activism and campaigning
Qualifications reform	Responding to government consultations on reforms to A level and GCSE qualifications
FE Zone Conference	Organising and delivering FE Zone Conference on the theme of tertiary education
Learner Reps project	Developing and recruiting to deliver on the learner reps project – redesigning learner reps tools for classroom/work based/prisoner education

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

<p>Student Governor Support Programme introductory rounds Attended Labour Party Conference Developing tertiary education narrative Learner Reps expert group developed</p>

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

<p>FE Zone Committee meeting Attended UCU meeting on whole college behaviour policy Spoke at Defend the Right to Protest Conference Spoke at TUC Demonstration rally "A Future That Works" Spoke at People and Planet "Shared Planet" conference Spoke at Neil Stewarts Associates conferences on HE in FE and the student experience</p>
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Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
180 delegates attend FEStival	150 delegates attended	Done
Government U-Turn on FE Fees	Developing 2 nd stage of No to FE Fees campaign – focussing on apprenticeships. Government concessions won on access to HE students	May 13
'True Cost of College' research published	Developing research proposal for hidden course costs research	April 13
Establishment of a National Independent Adjudicator for student complaints	Developing campaign for end of term 1 on complaints for FE	February 13
Research and recommendations on offender learning published	Developing research proposal for offender/prisoner learners	April 13
Research and Recommendations report on apprenticeships IAG produced	Research is underway	January 13
Qualifications and Policy Commission reflects position on level 2 and 3 qualifications	Responded to consultation on level 2 and 3 qualification reform	Done
FE Teaching & learning Audit Tool produced	Development in progress	March 13
Updated College Mergers toolkit produced that is UK wide/relevant	Working with officers in the nations to update mergers toolkit	December 12
Learner Engagement Hub launched	Learner Involvement Strategy launched – Learner Voice Quality Framework being piloted	January 13
70 Officers trained on FE Leadership	76 officers trained on introductory and advanced leadership	Done
Truth about youth issues film is produced	Filming planned over demo2012	December 12
5% increase LSS response rates in London	LSS reopens in January	January 14

Enrichments Cuts research report	Research proposal was based upon anticipated project funding from LSIS which has been withdrawn	June 13
100 delegates attend education summit with 80% positive feedback	Developing narrative around tertiary education and intervention points for the membership	

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Organise and run complaints campaign	Independent complaints authority for Further education in England and Wales
Apprentice research	Launching first research on apprentices' experiences of Information, Advice and Guidance
Demo2012	Demo..
Learner engagement	Launch of the learner engagement hub
No to FE Fees	Launch of second phase of the no to FE Fees campaign

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
City College Norwich	Meeting new sabbatical president
King's College London SU	Student Council Training
Leeds City College SU	Introduction and demo2012 catch up
Leeds University Union	Introduction and demo2012 catch up
Bradford College SU	Introduction and demo2012 catch up
Burton and South Derbyshire College SU	Introduction and demo2012 catch up
Sussex Downs College SU	Student council training
Canterbury College SU	Introduction and demo2012 catch up
FEstival	FE campaigns and activism introduction event
Soc&Cit/Welfare/FE/UD/HE Zone Conference	Democratic events
Festival – NUS USI	NUS USI training event for FE officers
Edinburgh College Students' Association	Introduction and demo2012 catch up
FE Leadership	Flagship NUS FE training event

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

IfL AGM

Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

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**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Rachel Wenstone (VP HE)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Students as Partners	Manifesto for Partnership launched
Zone Conference	We held the largest ever HE Zone Conference with lots of excellent policy suggestions.
Small and Specialist Unions	Working with the UD Zone to complete a 'needs assessment' of small and specialist unions and held a successful joint event with Guild HE
Transnational Education	Conducted focus groups and interviews to better understand how students' unions current represent students registered on transnational programs
Postgraduate Research	Launched survey to collect evidence on pay, training and working conditions for PGRs who teach (please share!!)

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

*Policy formation – Zone Committee met on Sunday 11th, and we began to review the policy that came in through members in HE Zone. The committee will meet again before the deadline on December 14th to finalise policy for the Zone report.
* Met with VP FE to feed into A-levels consultation

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

- Leeds Met Course Leaders Conference to speak on partnership
- Met with Dr Lisa Cluett, visiting academic from Australia, to talk about Student Engagement
- London Met demonstration outside the Home Office
- Trustee Board and Audit risk and Remuneration Committee
- Met with University Alliance on their 'future scenarios in education' project
- Attended the UUK NUS 90th Dinner in Keele
- Attended the London Met University Taskforce meeting on Liam's behalf
- Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA) Board meeting
- Postgraduate and Mature Part-time Sections Committee meetings in Staffs
- Labour Party Conference – 2 Fringes
 - (1) The Association of Business Schools 'Business Schools - Seizing the Future'
 - (2) 1994 Group on 'improving the student experience'
- Full-time Officer meeting
- Conservative Party Conference - 1994 Group Fringe on 'improving the student experience'
- Meeting at Deloitte on 'Future of HE' and the operating framework
- Student Engagement meeting with HEFCE, QAA and HEA
- Phone interview to give evidence on HEA's project 'Behavioural approaches to student choice'
- Met with Shabana Mamood, Shadow HE Minister
- Attended leaving do for Sir Martin Harris, former Director of Fair Access
- Gov Net Higher Education Summit, panel on student experience
- Met with Prof Ruth Farwell, Chair of Guild HE, about Manifesto for Partnership
- Spoke at Neil Stewart Conference on part-time student engagement
- External Media Training
- HE Commission launch on Future of Postgrad Education report in Westminster
- Guardian / HEA roundtable on teaching qualifications in HE
- Spoke at Guild HE Conference in Leeds

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
100 delegates attend education summit with 80% positive feedback	Planning process has started for this – this is the first event of its type	Feb 22 nd 2013
10 unions supported to develop research and practice in	Invitation has gone out to students' union to take part in the project, with emphasis on recruiting a diverse set of	March 2013

induction	unions interested in diverse student experiences	
Publish Manifesto for Students as Partners	Manifesto has been published and will be mailed to unions in November	Nov 2 nd 2012
20 Unions undertake Impact work on supporting teacher excellence	Student-led teaching award project has launched with a focus on small, specialist and under-resourced unions to receive funding to set up SLTAs. These will be selected on 14 Nov. Workshops on developing impact of SLTAs scheduled for December.	
10 Unions successfully win on local timetabling campaigns	Toolkit will be launched after Christmas break	Feb 2013
10% increase in cash bursaries for students	We have scheduled a meeting with Les Ebdon to lobby on student engagement in access, bursaries and NSP. We continue to support SUs campaigning on this (big up to Northumbria for a big win on this).	
Publish postgraduate funding discussions paper	Paper went to Zone Conference for discussion and will be published shortly	
Target 80 to training and 30 at each development day with 80% positive feedback	HE consultants have launched development days on postgrads, WP, mature student support and placements students.	
Joint UUK. Million + conference on Mature Students	Under discussion with million+ and UUK – we hope to have an event at Staffs	

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Attendance Monitoring	Have already released a briefing, but will decide how to take this campaign forward
Partnership	Will meet with Chairs of mission groups / other sector-y people to talk about implementation Will collect testimonials from SUs and HEI about how they create partnership
Degree attainment	Work with Liberation campaigns to publish briefings
Child free to child friendly	Release campaign kit on this area
PGT Funding	Publish our funding proposal
Transnational Education	Publish report and toolkit - best practice for engaging, representing and supporting transnational students
Access agreements	Meet with Les Ebdon to convince him to support further student engagement in access and lobby on bursary provision and NSP

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
Aldwych in Manchester	Delivered a session on Tier 4 (student) Visa changes
Royal Holloway SU	Delivered a 'What is NUS' session to executive committee
Wolves AGM, UWE, Manchester Uni	Speak about #Demo2012
Bath Spa SU	Panel Debate on the Future of HE
Speech at QAA's 'Quality Still Matters'	Spoke about partnership and quality assurance
Bournemouth Uni SU, Strathclyde Uni, Kent, Essex, Northumbria, Aberdeen	Spoke at / ran training and attended Course Rep Conference
Lincoln and Bishop Grosseteste	Spent half a day with each to talk all things NUS and #Demo2012
NUS / Guild HE joint event (small and specialist)	Spoke and delivered session
Bucks New Uni	To catch-up and chat NUS
Zone Conferences	

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Arts University College Bournemouth	Exec training and catch-up
UCLan	Spoke at All Members Meeting
Activism 2012	Delivered a whole days worth of educational activism

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

<p>21/09 – BBC News 24 and World Service on London Met court case 24/09 – Scholastic interview on “ immigration and problems that foreign students are facing in the UK” 04/10 – LBC on Teach First 23/10 – BBC Humberside on EMA and access to educatio</p>

Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

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**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Dannie Grufferty (VP Soc & Cit)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Living Wage	We have helped Canterbury and Strathclyde secure a living wage and are working closely building teams across 20 institutions We ran a second Living Wage Masterclass, training a further 20 activists to run their own campaigns.
Equal Access	Launched our campaign with STAR and will be working with the international students campaign to deliver wins across the UK.
Zone conference	Ran a successful zone conference with record turnout
Right to Protest	Developed a 'right to protest' app for demo 2012, produced a short guide to protest rights, and produced a briefing on occupations to go out post-demo
E&E	Established a new e&e committee inviting student officers to have strategic input Ran first ever E&E Masterclass for 25 activists.

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
10 unions have election registration drives	On hold due to other commitments	May
4 unions to start Open Book programmes over the next year	On hold due to other commitments	July
At least 10 (20?) institutions to begin implementing the living wage within the next year	We have won the living wage at two institutions since our training and campaign was launched	July
Win on votes at 16 in nations	Secured for the referendum on independence, work to be done to support NUS Scotland to roll it out further	2015
Commitment from major fashion house to back pay their interns	Devising a strategy to target major fashion chains with 'days of action' with the TUC as a post-demo activity	May
20 unions/STAR groups to begin dialogue with their universities on equal access.	Launched at STAR conference in November to positive response, working with unions with strong STAR groups	March
Global justice toolkit launched	On hold	April
30 students' unions to commit to switch to the co-operative bank.	42 currently	Complete
Joint materials produced with Defend the Right to Protest for national demo	Demo briefing currently being produced. NUS has developed a right to protest app for the demo and provided funds for bust cards	November
5 pilots with unions on National Citizenship Service	Awaiting to hear from the Cabinet Office	March
10 candidates have documented interaction with SUs/make statement about students	Developing with You Gov some polling around student voting and interests	May

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Interns poll with TUC and YouGov sent to major employers	Get some data on prevalence of unpaid internships
Shareholder activism event with FairPensions	Get students trained in lobbying institutions on their ethical records

Strategic partnership with People & Planet	Potential linkup in FE around their activism work
Review affiliation with Citizens UK	Begin to develop general election strategy to train student organisers

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
Birmingham	FEstival
Sheffield, Liverpool Guild, Hope, JMU, York, York St John, Kent, Aberdeen, Aberdeen college	Demo activity and officer 121s
Queens, Ulster, Queen Mary's University College	Activist and organising training and pre-referendum prep
Bristol	E&E committee

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

Press on our campaign in living wage week.
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Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

Need to meet with Starbucks on issues around tax avoidance, will be liaising closely with NUSSL on this.
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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

Dinner from Endsleigh.

**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Aaron Kiely (Black Students' Officer)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Black History Month 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We launched a very well-received Black History Month Guide 2012 which has had over 25,000 views on the web. In it we featured leading Black activists and representatives, marked 25 years of Black MPs with a guest editorial from Diane Abbott MP and top ideas for Black History Month events on campus. • The Campaign spoke at many different institutions and I visited Sussex, Goldsmiths, Kent, Coventry, Mid Kent College, Lincoln, Bournemouth & Birmingham. • We launched a briefing on Black Women's History along with the Women's Campaign. • The Great Debate Tour which we support is in the process of visiting over 30 campuses engaging hundreds of Black students in debating current issues and topics. • We held an extremely successful Black History Month public meeting in collaboration with the Venezuelan Embassy and Venezuela Solidarity Campaign that Doreen Lawrence, Diane Abbott MP, Caribbean Labour Solidarity and the Venezuela Ambassador spoke at. Over 120 people attended and a write-up is on the NUS website.
Defending 'No Platform for fascists' at Leeds University & Cardiff Uni	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiated a statement from the Black Students' Campaign calling for the immediate removal of an open interview with fascist Nick Griffin in the 'Leeds Student'. This statement has received widespread support with over 200 signatories gathered - including support from Leeds African Caribbean Society, Leeds Jewish Society, Leeds Islamic Society, Leeds LGBT society, Unite Against Fascism (UAF), the anti-fascist magazine 'Searchlight', the Federation of Student Islamic Societies (FOSIS). • Spoke at a debate at Leeds defending 'no platform for fascists' along with Leeds LGBT society (who formally made a complaint against the publication of the interview) and UAF. • 'gair rhydd' a student paper at Cardiff University republished the interview, so along with Peter Hain MP, students at Cardiff Uni & Welsh Assembly Members I signed an open letter calling for the retraction of the article. I am currently supporting the Wales Black Students' Officer in challenging these actions - which actually endanger Black, Jewish, LGBT, women & disabled students.
Challenging racism and fascism on campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Queen Mary's leaflets and posters were put up AND distributed on campus calling for a 'white civil rights movement'. Working with QMSU Black Students' Officer to oppose this and spoke at meeting they organised to speak about importance of uniting against racism & fascism.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Birmingham, an elected student representative 'blacked up' - this was robustly challenged by Black students at Birmingham Guild and I supported them in their campaign for his resignation & apology (which was successful).
Sikh Students' Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worked with Kat Luckock to deliver what was a successful day that brought together Sikh Students to discuss the issues facing them on their campuses & how to support them further engaging in NUS.
NUS #Demo2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blogging about the demo, spreading the message on social networks, encouraging Black students to attend. Contributing to the liberation briefing on the impact of cuts to education and public services on Black students & the reality of racist scapegoating. Distributed over 2000 #demo2012 posters across campuses.

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

<p>Two successful sessions run at Student Activism 2012 - "Challenging the rise of racism, Islamophobia & fascism - no to racist scapegoating" and "Fund Education Not War - Hands off the Middle-East & Africa".</p> <p>Very successful film showing of Ken Fero's "Who polices the police?" in both Goldsmiths and Manchester, supported by the Campaign. I chaired a panel discussion with sister of Sean Rigg, Marcia Rigg and Matilda McAttram of Black Mental Health UK on the topic of deaths in custody, working with Goldsmiths SU & Lewisham Anti-Racist Action Group.</p>
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My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

<p>Held stall UPrise festival Chaired 'Who Polices the Police?' meeting- Goldsmiths Attended Tory Party Conference protest in Birmingham Attended TUC Demo - 20th October Attended Somali Week Launch Spoke at Education Activist Network Conference Spoke at Student Fightback 2012 Conference Attended United Families & Friends March Spoke at Waltham Forest Anti-English Defence League Demonstration Venezuela Solidarity Campaign AGM (elected on to executive) Held sessions at Student Activism 2012 Attended Islamophobia Awareness Month Launch Spoke at Diane Abbott MP 25 years in Parliament celebration</p>

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
BS Fresher's Packs to over 60 Unions	KPI met - over 100 Fresher's Packs sent out	
BHM 25 events held across the country	KPI met - many events held, including 30 Great Debate Tour meetings supported by the BSC, events attended by Committee members, a successful national event in London.	
15% increase in the number of Black Student Officers elected	Elections training to be held at Winter Conference - main elections drive in term 2	Term 2/3
ARAF Conference held with 80% satisfaction rating	To be held term 2	Term 2
Black Womens Conference held	To be held term 2	March term 2
Black Anti Cuts Briefing Released	Contribution made to mobilising liberation groups for #demo2012 briefing	Term 2
10 IPJ key events held across UK	Successful BHM Venezuela event by the BSC	Term 3

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
A successful Black Students' Winter training Conference	Training up Black students from across the country and empowering them to campaign on the issues that affect them.
Organising NUS Anti-Racism Anti-Fascism Conference	A successful event bringing together students, Black, Jewish, LGBT, women and disabled communities and all those opposed to racism and fascism. Equipping students they need with skills to challenge all manifestations of racism and fascism.
Launching 'Charter for an anti-racist university'	Promoting the charter along with trade unionists, particularly from the UCU that will look at progressive the anti-racist agenda across institutions.
Protesting against George Osborne's Autumn Statement budget on 5 th December	Challenging what will no doubt be another round of cuts and deepening austerity.
Developing our Black students elections programme	More Black student representatives in Unions.

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
Lewisham College	Supporting Black student with issues. Spoke on panel
Student Fightback 2012	
EAN Conference	Spoke on panel
Sussex, Goldsmiths, Kent, Coventry, Mid Kent College, Lincoln, Bournemouth & Birmingham.	Black History Month events

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

Two interviews for TeleSUR regarding Caribbean & Latin America
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Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

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**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Hannah Patterson (Disabled Students Officer)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
	<p>Hardest hit - successful week of action on hardest hit with lot of lobbying about the changes to benefits systems, the fact that ATOS isn't working and the promotion of the 'tipping point' report. Got lots of union officers on board at zone conferences but specific thanks to con entry, derby and Leeds who all did great things during the week</p> <p>Mental health of activists booklets - these are in the process of being printed. They look fabulous even if I do say so myself</p> <p>Demo - all the demo talks all of the places! Getting students along to the demo and also thinking about after demo events</p> <p>Disabled history month - released the briefing for disabled history month just getting unions to start there planning processes for the month and to think about change campaigns that can come from these, specifically looking at setting up as 3rd party hate crime reporting centres and joining in with the access challenges- http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/news/article/disabled/Disabled-History-Toolkit/</p> <p>Governance review - looking at the way the campaign is run and how to make it more accessible, consulting with membership about these</p>

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

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My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

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Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
15 students' unions will get accredited by the Access Challenge	preliminary meetings with 5 unions, 9 have expressed interest	
15 students' unions take part in DHM activities across the UK	already 10 unions with concrete plans, a further 10 have been in contact for information/advice	
50 people participate in the mental health days	dates are being confirmed then they can go to advert	
NAS established	still working on it	

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Mental Health	

	* Print off, launch and distribute mental health for activists guides
Mental Health	* solidify and begin long term mental health campaigns
Disabled History Month	* successful disabled history month, with a range of events across the country and 5 unions set up as hate crime reporting

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
Manchester students union-	met with newly elected reps
Manchester Met -	art of protest and chat about disability forum
Worcester uni - officers	demo chat
Bradford students union-	disabled bike riding group and chat with disability rep
Kingston students union-	talk on mental health
ULU-	cross liberation meeting
Goldsmiths -	chat with disability

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

<p>Media:</p> <p>UWE student radio interview on mental health</p> <p>Meetings:</p> <p>Attitude is everything on student charter Committee meeting CRM training Disabled History Month Common purpose - leadership training for disabled students Mental wealth matters Nightline</p>
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Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

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**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Sky Yarlett, Finn McGoldrick (LGBT Officers)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Preparing for the TUC Demo and NUS Demo	We organised as part of an LGBT bloc at the TUC demo and had a good presence. We are writing 3 newsletters to the membership about Demo2012
Launch of Out in Sport at UD Zone Conference	Successful launch with National media coverage and well attended workshop at zones. Lots of interest in how to take this forward.
Held Out in Education training event and LGBT leadership	Over 20 people at each event successfully trained. OIE students drafting letters to send to local schools.
Preparing for Liberation Activist Days	Sourcing venues and potential dates.

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

Both attended Activism 2012 and gave workshop on 'Queers are revolting' Both met with Campaigns Press/Public affairs to discuss media and campaigns we are running.
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Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
20 LGBT students trained in running sessions in secondary schools	Completed at Out in Education training	8/10/12
Report - Media Coverage on out in sport: Print: 1 Nationals, 2 locals; Radio – 1 national, 3 locals; 5 web	Huffington Post, Guardian, Pink News picked up story.	
100 people attending LGBT Student Leadership across all 4 events		Activist Training Days to complete
'F into LGBT' document circulated and workshop		
50 LGBT student activists involved in day of Action		
30 students/officers trained on creating trans-friendly environments	20 students at LGBT Leadership has workshop on Trans, plus 15 students at Heythrop College	
20 number of students' unions take part in LGBT HM activities across the UK	In Planning now	February

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Developing the Out in Education campaign and tracking the next steps of those who attended.	Contact those who attended & follow their progress.
Attending LGBT History Month Pre-Launch at Bletchley Park	Building relations with stakeholders & preparing for LGBT HM
Have successful demo2012	engage LGBT students in Demo.
Transgender Day of Remembrance 20 th November 2012	Remember those who have lost their lives due to transphobia and hate crime. Attending event in London & supporting local events in Aberdeen, Leeds, Reading and Hull.

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
Bournemouth / Hull / Shared Planet Conference / Worcester College of Technology	Demo visits. All seemed engage though shame about lack of attendees
Heythrop College, University of the Arts London, Goldsmiths College	Trans training for their exec and officers – 20 people. UAL to help establish an LGBT society and give them support. Goldsmiths to support LGBT society.

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

Out in Sport – Pink News, Guardian and Huffington Post
Attended Stonewall Starting Out Launch.

Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

Received a Tshirt from Hull Students Union after Demo2012 talk.

**NUS National Executive Council
TO NOTE**

Officer Report

Kelley Temple (Womens Officer)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Fair to Care	Research Plan is complete with the first stage which is the literature review underway and will be completed by 23 rd November. Second phase involving analysing NUS Pound in the Pocket Data will be completed by 30 th November and focus groups/interview guides finalised by 14 th Dec with focus groups being conducted January and February 2013. Delivered workshops on Fair to Care at NUS Zones and Activism 2012 and Student Unions to start focusing on campaigning to include carers in college/uni monitoring data. Working with HE Team to utilise access agreements within review cycle for commitments to recruitment of student carers. Fed into direction of Carers Strategies for Colleges and Universities in Scotland. Successfully campaigned for Scottish Youth Parliament to submit NUS policy on student carer funding to the Scottish Parliament Public petitions committee.
Demo 2012	In order to mobilise Women's Campaign block placards have been ordered with Women's Campaign Demo2012 specific branding. Some launched (and still launching) 3 briefings for Student Unions on why Demo2012 is important for women under Educate, Employ and Empower. NUS Women's Committee have been speaking at student unions on why the demo2012 is important for women students.
Abortion	Spoke at Abortion Rights Rally in October, advising and supporting women's officers regarding direct action around anti-choice MPs and their movements in parliament, working with women's officers and Student Presidents to remove Abort 67 from campuses.
Liberating the Curriculum in Colleges	Adapted campaign briefing still in progress however consultation with student officers (particularly education and women's officers) regarding developing a key set of campaigning tools for student officers to choose from and lead on informing the process well. Pilot unions due to be selected by next NEC and project fully underway.
Zero Tolerance to Sexual harassment	Attended the Home Office cross departmental meeting on Violence against Women and girls with outcome of highlighting of lack of focus on tertiary education and home office marketing team to explore positive understanding of consent in consent videos. Accredited Uni of Essex as zero tolerance to sexual harassment. Training road shows in development.

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

<p>Black Women of History Briefing launched for Black History Month NUS Women's Officer Handbook Published Organised protest at 'Labour Life' fringe at Labour Party conference First London Feminist student Network meeting which was a success with nearly 20 women in attendance and a clear coordination plans for campaigning. Co Facilitated the Gender Session at the European Students Convention in Cyprus and contributed both gender analysis and relationship development to the event on behalf of NUS UK with the European Student Union (report submitted to NEC for event)</p>

Team meeting with FOSIS re planning for Muslim Women Leadership Conference, working relationship going ahead with event in Birmingham

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

Delivered Consent Workshop at Activism 2012
 Spoke at Aberdeen Reclaim the Night Rally
 Home Officer VAWG group
 2X Full Time Officer Meetings
 NUS Women's Committee Meetings
 Met with Lad Culture Researchers for progress update
 Met with Carers UK Regarding their candidacy for Fair to Care Steering group and campaign coordination
 UK Feminista Lobby of Parliament
 Scottish Youth Parliament Sitting- student carers policy to public petitions committee and the SYP education and equality committees jointly taking forward the review of sex education and PSE in Scotland to include a more evidence led and empowering (feminist) sex education model with a statutory requirement
 FEstival
 FE Leadership
 Have a lot of meetings with women's officers over the phone regarding campaign planning and campaign development
 NUS Zones
 Women's Campaign newsletter
 NUS USI Women's Conference
 Engender Board Meeting- delivering Fair to Care session at AGM in January
 ULU London Liberation Network Meeting

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
Media Coverage for supporting carers in 1 national paper and 1 online feature.	Working towards student union action on carers rights day, aiming for student media coverage	Tbc
10 womens anti-cuts campaigns being run on a local level, with reported successes/impact.	Pre demo focus is on mobilising women for women's block on demo	Post demo
Adapted briefing on LTC launched	Still in progress	December 2012
40 unions sign up to zero tolerance on sexual harassment standards/projects	Training still in design stage, Uni of Essex SU accredited and 3 more in contact re applying for accreditation	Semester 2
100 women mobilised for the MWR and RTN actions.		In progress
100 Women across all three events have been supported to become leaders and/or activists	Planning for all events and women's conference in progress	Planning complete by 16 th November
30 students' unions down load the resources for each of the briefings		
Report on Lad Culture Launched January	Literature review completed, Focus groups in progress around the UK.	On track for completion in January

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Demo2012!	Successful women's block at demo and post demo focus on the gendered analysis of campaigning on campus, particularly in relation to education cuts
London Reclaim the Night Saturday 24 th November	Mobilising large women student block and attendance at rally, speech at rally.

For the latest news follow @NUSNEC and visit www.nusconnect.org.uk/nusnec

Liberating the Curriculum	Briefing launched and 3 pilot unions started campaigning on key goals with a goal to achieve change in 2 working months
Fair to Care	Student unions campaigning on inclusion of monitoring data and access agreements in preparation for carer participation in research
Consent	Consent workshop resources available online and being ran in student unions
Union visits	Union visits to evaluate unions already accredited zero tolerance, support women's officers and support at student councils regarding policy proposals

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
Aberdeen University Students Association	Aberdeen Reclaim the Night
University of Leicester Students Union	Demo2012 mobilising
Royal Holloway University of London Students Union	Women and Education Panel Debate
Cumbria	Supporting women's officer to organise Educate Employ Empower women's campaigning events

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

<p>BBC re: Abort 67 Cosmopolitan re 'Bullying' with women at University Redbrick, London Student, Strathclyde Telegraph re: Consent Closer re: sugar daddies The Phoenix re: abortion The Siren (Bangor) re: sexism on campus Arts London News re: lad culture Cosmopolitan re: sexual harassment Glamour Magazine re: lad culture</p>
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Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

I took 11 days of annual leave

**NUS National Executive Council
TO NOTE**

Report

European Students Convention ESC24

Kelley Temple and Krissy Meyer

Key Outcomes of the trip

Action	What this means for NUS UK students and students unions
Austerity	The conclusion of the conference that student leaders agreed that austerity it is not a way out of the crisis and that it is futile for governments to cut investment in higher education across Europe, especially at a time when investment is needed to support the demands of reskilling and at a time of record unemployment. There was a lot of in depth discussion about the impact of cuts in the education sector and the consequences such as braindrain, increased social welfare costs, decreased revenue and a lack of growth. There was a call for greater analysis of targeted lobbying with a European wide perspective. Some Unions identified a decrease in the quality of teaching where both lecturers and students lose motivation due to a combination of increased pressures with less resource and capacity.
Gender Session	Kelley co-led the mandatory Gender Session with the ESU Equality Coordinator. The focus of the session was an interactive role play which examined the limiting consequences of gender roles and the consequences in terms of access to resources, power and the influence and impact that this has on the education system of a state. NUS UK is taking a leading role in promoting gender equality within ESU, with Kelley having chaired the gender mainstreaming strategy review and in sharing best practice with other Unions.
Student Advancement of Graduates Employability (SAGE)	In smaller groups we compared the situation in different European countries. From the feedback, the ESU Executive Committee will put together a survey that will be circulated to Unions soon and will feed into a report that will be published next year.
Student employability	There were a wide range of discussion topics around employability and how this focus should be taken forward. NUS UK contributed occupational and vocational segregation on the basis of gender and a focus around thinking beyond the narrow confines of what is thought to be individualised graduate employability. There is a need to work with institutions and the market to ensure that graduates are prepared and employable, but discussion was had around the balance of employer support and too much influence.
BFUG Work Plan	The BFUG Work Plan has been sent to Unions. There are still many issues to discuss within the four working groups.

Other useful interactions from the trip

Alumni session: As part of the ESU 30th anniversary celebrations, we attended a joint event with some of the ESU alumni. It was interesting to see how many of the issues that were relevant 10 years ago are still on our agenda now and how the current challenges facing ESU as an organisation are in some ways very similar to the past and how to think strategically about the organisation going forward and NUS UK's contribution to that.

NOMS: In our evaluation meeting in the summer we talked about possibly attending a NOMS meeting, which is a factional grouping of mostly Nordic countries. After chatting to some of the Nordic Unions, they are happy for us to do so with an eye to perhaps consider joining the faction. We are not sure whether this would be to the benefit of NUS UK, but it could build up good relations and increase NUS UK's influence depending on our ESU strategy going forward.

**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Daniel Stevens (International Students Officer)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Police Lines Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secured media coverage into long police lines at Borough police registration centre. - After a week of lobbying a solution was reached where students no longer had to queue outside the station. - Have a meeting convened by UUK with the Immigration Minister in December to discuss possible scrapping of police registration.
Attendance Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Researched attendance monitoring procedures at various institutions. - Engaged with UCU and the Manifesto Club on this and looking to work in partnership with them in the future. - In touch with various CMs who have had extensive Attendance Monitoring procedures implemented.
Campaign Mapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building a new data base and mailing list of ISOs and FPOC Sabbatical Officers. - Currently only 1/3 response. - ISC Facebook Group at over 500 members.
ISC Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Over 50 Unions attended. - Great feedback.
Quality for International Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at what to do in the case of college closures. - Fed into meeting with QAA, ISC and UKCISA

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

<p>Begun discussions to look at affiliation of private colleges to NUS where international students are the most vulnerable.</p> <p>Begun meetings with various different sector bodies and to connect the NUS ISC with different organisations from the sector.</p> <p>Other issues surrounding Bulgarian/Romanian students.</p>

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

<p>No more police lines at Borough.</p> <p>Identified key trends with attendance monitoring.</p> <p>Building campaign infrastructure.</p>

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
Target 80 to training and 30 at each development day with 80% positive feedback		

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Immigration Campaign	Hoping to finalise campaign plans. Looking to launch the campaign in January with a day of action in either February/March.

Attendance Monitoring	Looking to launch a campaign toolkit in the next two weeks.
ISC Infrastructure.	Looking to finalise mailing list in the next two weeks. Discussions with comms about broader social media.

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising
LSE Students Union	Welcome Event for International Students.
Warwick Students' Union	Talked at opening of ISA and hosted elections for committee positions.
Edinburgh Students' Union	Talked with VPs and International Students Officer.
Glasgow SRC	Popped into to talk with President.
University of the Arts London	Popped in to talk about some of the issues they're facing.

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

<p>Meeting with the UKBA to discuss procedural problems with the application process for international students.</p> <p>Skype Meeting with Australian National Union of Students ISO.</p> <p>Participated in NASES Webchat on international students.</p> <p>Met with the group "Foreign Students."</p> <p>Met with the Migrants Rights Network.</p> <p>Met with the British Accrediation Council.</p> <p>Met with UK Uncapped.</p> <p>Participated in Equal Access to Education Meeting with Soc and Cit.</p> <p>Called Study UK.</p> <p>Held a session on UD and HE Zone.</p> <p>Participated in the ABEP Conference. (Brazilian international students.)</p>

Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

<p>Attendance Monitoring – Lots happening. Many unions are not doing enough to address this or learn what their own procedures are.</p> <p>College Closures – Will continue to be an issue as UKBA have not finished their audits. Looking at what institutional support can be given to students from private colleges who have had their college closed,</p>
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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

<p>Lunch from UKCISA</p> <p>Free Ticket to the ABEP Conference</p>
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**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Sean Rillo Razcka and Fee Wood (Mature and Part-Time Students' Officers)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Encourage MPT students to demo	Speaking to MPT students and officers encouraging them to bring student parents and children to the demo and march as a block.
Child friendly campuses	Discussions on the steps to child friendly campuses, ready to launch a campaign in early 2013

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

Activism 2012, held a session on 'from child free to child friendly campuses'

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

HE Zone Mature and part time training event Activism 2012

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
Joint UUK. Million + conference on Mature Students	Meeting with VC of Staffordshire who would like to host the event	Early 2012

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Campus visit to see best practice in operation at Leeds	To provide information for the campaign to share upon launch

Membership Engagement

Since the last NEC meeting, I have undertaken some union visits and attended a number of events to engage with the membership

Union / event visited	Purpose / Issues arising

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

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Issues

During this period I have become aware of the following issues not recorded elsewhere

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Declaration of Gifts, Hospitality And Interests

None

**NUS National Executive Council
TO SCRUTINISE / NOTE**

Officer Report

Luke James and Robin Burrett (Postgraduate Students' Officers)

Outcomes and Outputs

My Top priorities since the last NEC	What changes I have achieved or rights I have defended for students and students' unions in these areas
Postgraduate committee meeting	Organising postgraduate block for demo
Spoke and took part in panel discussion at Westminster HE Forum	Won support for new postgraduate funding solution

Other achievements of my Zone/Section/Campaign/Nation

Training postgraduate student officers at event in Manchester
Winning support from membership for new funding solution at HE Zone

My outputs since the last NEC (meetings / actions attended)

Postgraduate committee meeting
Westminster HE Forum
Activism 2012 conference

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	Report on Progress	Date expected
Publish postgraduate funding discussions paper	Draft complete	November

Plans before the next meeting

Between now and the next NEC, we plan to achieve:

My Priority area before the next NEC	What I hope to achieve
Rally postgraduate students to take part in Demo 2012	Encourage new PG activists and use as a spring board for further action
Publicly launch funding paper	Win support for PG funding from civic society and political leaders
Hold next PG committee meeting	Plan four nations PG lobby
Speak at debate on PG fees	Win support for new funding model

Media Engagement and External Relations

Meetings attended and media appearances made

Talked to two journalists about new PG funding paper after Westminster HE forum. We put off any article until our scheduled launch.

Subject: Assumptions for the 2013/14 Estimates

Produced by: Rachel Wenstone, VP HE

To: NUS National Executive Council

Date: 27th November 2012

Action: To discuss

Summary: This paper outlines the current core assumptions to build the financial Estimates for 2014¹. There is still much work to be done before all the assumptions can be finalised so this paper is to give an overview of expected direction and for input on the NEC relevant aspects.

1. Background

The budget for 2012² is a net surplus, after contribution to the Charity³, of £100k and the management accounts to the end of October indicate that we are on track to achieve this, though these are early days and there have been a couple of notable unanticipated events that will cause unplanned expenditure, being London Met and Galloway.

The 2014 budget has to comprehend some significant changes, each of which will require us to make some financial assumptions:

- The operating costs of Macadam house
- Further development of the activities and role of the Charity
- Changes to the affiliations fee methodology
- Changes in pension scheme contributions and take up

As a result the following are the core assumptions that we plan at this stage to use to build the 2014 Estimates.

2. Format

The format of the estimates will be similar to last year's such that:

- A narrative on financial performance will be coupled with a set of estimates for core income and expenditure, and an appendix detailing what each area represents.
- Externally funded projects will not appear in the Estimates, and a realistic contribution to the Charity will be later inserted, as our intention is to have completed the transition of these projects to the Charity by the start of the new financial year.
- Where income is gathered for specific purposes (e.g. delegation fees) the estimates will contain the net contribution to ensure clarity and transparency over what is spent or subsidised from unrestricted funds, e.g. the HE Summer Training Programme will be shown at £0 since it is budgeted to break even.

3. Overall Expectation

Overall we expect the 2013 budget to look very similar to that of 2012 as we do not anticipate any significant new income streams or structural changes or staffing increases. So if we want to give higher priority to certain activities in 2013 it will have to be achieved by shifting funds from one area to another.

The largest movements over which we have some control are likely to be what we can derive from NUS Extra sales and how far we choose to go with changes in Affiliation fee methodology and the new SUEI model.

¹ 2013 being the financial year ending 30th June 2014

² 2012 being the financial year ending 30th June 2013

³ The Charity = NUS Students' Unions Charitable Services

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Our expectation at this point is that it will be a challenging budgeting process given:

- Increased operating costs of Macadam House, until we get tenants in to defray those costs, as we will move from 6,700 sq ft to 13,000 sq ft
- Wage inflationary pressures. NUS UK staff have not had a cost of living increase for three years. A 3% cost of living increase, for example, would add £100k in operating costs
- Our commitment to reduce affiliation fees and introduce a subsidised SUEI model

4. Timings

The Estimates will be brought to the NEC and Trustee Board for approval in February, prior to submission to Conference.

In the mean time we will continue the work we doing to firm up the assumptions and then take to AR&R for review.

The NEC are invited to discuss the assumptions and feed in views on spending priorities ahead of the detailed development of the estimates in January 2013.

Triennial Rules Review 2012/13 National Executive Council

Purpose of Paper: This paper sets out key questions about the NUS NEC for consideration and feedback as part of the current rules review. It is for **discussion**.

Introduction

This year a Triennial review of the NUS Rules is taking place. One of the strands that the National President is responsible for looking at the NUS National Executive Council and the Trustee Board.

The consultation document describes and summarises the existing constitutional arrangements for the two bodies:

The National Executive Council is the interim policy body and its officers provide the Political Leadership of the National Union. The National Executive Council is the most senior policy body outside of the National Conference.

The National Executive Council:

- decides emergency policy of the National Union in between meetings of the National Conference;
- appoints members to various committees;
- sets up special committees of significance to the National Union whose work applies to more than one Nation, Student Section, Liberation Campaign or Zone;
- interprets and develop policy and plans arising from it;
- holds the Zones and their work to account;
- advises the Trustee Board on the meaning of policy, political priorities and allocation of resources of the National Union
- in conjunction with the Trustee Board proposes the Budget for the National Union to National Conference by the President

It is made up of two reps from each of the following:

- The five Zones
- The four liberation campaigns
- The three nations
- The four sections

In each of the above cases two people from each attend- usually a Full Time Officer and an additional rep from each area. In addition the National President attends, along with a block of fifteen members elected by National Conference (five of which are reserved for FE) which provide for political diversity on the NEC. These roles are not remunerated.

Trustee Board

The Trustee Board of NUS holds the organisation's resources in trust and applies them in the pursuit of NUS as expressed through Conference and the NEC.

Its powers under include

- management and administration of the National Union;
- the Detailed Internal Budgets of the National Union; and
- in conjunction with the National Executive Council, the formulation and proposal to the National Conference of the Budget of the National Union as presented by the National President.

Trustees are made up of the following persons:

- Not more than five Officer Trustees, of whom one shall be the National President;
- Not more than six Student Trustees; and
- Not more than four Lay Trustees.

The two bodies

The NEC discusses and debates NUS' politics, and the Board applies NUS' resources to these ends. There is a balance of power between the two bodies. In extremis if the Board thinks the NEC has resolved something highly risky it can overrule it. On the other hand if the NEC believes the Board is not acting in the interests of NUS it can remove any or all of the Board. This system guarantees that NUS is both representative and careful with its resources.

Consultation: Emerging Themes

During the consultation so far a number of themes have emerged that are worthy of further discussion, but not necessarily resolution, at this meeting.

Role of the Block: There are widespread views on the role of the Block of Fifteen. It is currently perceived as an executive *scrutiny and communication* role, but candidates (and national conference itself) appear to believe it to be an executive *delivery* role, which in truth was devolved to sections committees in the last review. There are various views on how this should be fixed, which range from better publicity about its role to abolition of Zone Committees altogether, with options in between.

A paper compiled by Joe Oliver, one of last year's members of the Block on the subject is appended.

Plus Ones: There has been considerable discussion on the role and effectiveness of the additional places on the NEC for the Zones, Sections, Nations and Liberation campaigns. Some believe that they add balance to the body which otherwise would be dominated by Full Time Officers. Others believe the positions are not effective and tokenistic.

Separate Bodies: Some are arguing that the split in duties between the Board and NEC is false and should be abolished, with the NEC taking on legal & financial duties as previously. Others are arguing that the split has worked well with each body able to focus on different aspects.

Gender Balancing: A number of those feeding in have suggested that we take steps to structurally gender balance the NEC. There are two obvious basic options (that are not necessarily mutually exclusive):

- Create a quota of reserved places for women on the block
- Require +1 positions for the other areas to be women if the officer is not a woman

Board Membership: Some have argued that the NUS Board would be more effective in its scrutiny role if the rule that prevented Senior SU staff from becoming lay members was abolished. There may be alternative or complementary ways of securing better scrutiny from SU Staff.

Organisations in association places: The current rules allow for (non voting) membership of the NEC for nationally recognised student organisations. These provisions have never been fully enacted. There is some debate about how and when these provisions will be enacted to recognise and involve national faith, profession or political groups.

Discussion

You are invited to:

- Reflect on the emergent issues and voice your views at the meeting
- Consider any problems you feel exist with the NEC/Board and how they might be solved

NUS National Executive Council

Report on the role of NUS block of 15

Author Joe Oliver (Former member of the Block of 15)

[With political diversity being one of the evident strengths of the Block, all the suggestions and views included are those of individual Block Members, rather than representing any attempt to reach a unified or majority view.]

One of the main issues causing frustration for Block Members this year has been a lack of clarity about their exact role. The purpose of Block seems to be an uncertain and at times contradictory mix between a political platform to influence the policy of the organisation, scrutinising and holding FTOs to account, communicating between the NEC and constituent members, and generally supporting NUS as needed.

NEC meetings this year have particularly focused on the scrutiny role, whereas candidates' manifestos continue to focus on the political platform aspect, with a lack of awareness of the practical role of Block even amongst NUS' most engaged members.

With a review of Governance approaching it would seem a good time to clarify what we want from Block, as well as potentially introducing changes to improve the way it functions, particularly in the light of how the Block has worked in recent years, and inter-relates with Zone Committees.

The Communication role of Block

Members of Block raised various issues with regard to communication:

The current system of using Block to communicate with CMs needs to be reviewed, as it means inconsistent messages are being sent out, and often not getting through at all, coupled with a lack of buy-in and involvement from many Unions.

In practical terms suggestions include:

- Block members could co-write and send out a uniform update to ensure parity of contact with CMs
- The role of Clerks of the NEC could include working up newsletters/communications to send round with input from Block members.
- A Liamesque list of specific questions on NEC papers could be pre-determined and sent out, to make feedback as easy as possible.
- Block Members receiving allocated CMs ready for the start of their term would be very helpful; with FE allocations not being received until November this year crucial changes to engage with officers at the start of the year were lost.
- A wider organisational issue with finding reliable contact details also needs attention; Despite assurances contact details, particularly for FE Unions, are often not on NUS Connect.

In broader terms it's been questioned whether sending out NEC papers etc should be the role of Block at all, given the inconsistent messages it can lead to.

- A summary document produced and sent by an FTO (or staff member) might work better
- Online methods of gathering feedback could be used via NUS Digital, such as video feedback, or 'Question the officers' tools, or Discussion Boards and Wikis

-When FTOs or allocated staff members visit CMs in future it would be good if the appropriate Block Members could go too. This has worked well on occasions this year, but has been inconsistently applied.

-Block could also submit (brief) reports to NEC, as FTOs do, to feedback information and record what they're doing for scrutiny.

Block members could also communicate more with each other, with suggestions including setting up an email list, and arranging dedicated time to meet together, particularly at the beginning of the year.

The Scrutiny role of Block

It was recognised that scrutiny of FTOs, and of fellow Block Members, hasn't been performed as much as it could.

-Several Members raised the conflict of Block being expected to scrutinise FTOs while essentially relying on their goodwill to attend many events and carry out other aspects of the role, which could compromise impartiality.

-Others raised a broader issue in sometimes finding a difficulty of reconciling an independent scrutiny function with being a representative voted in on a political platform.

Visiting Constituent Members and a Block Budget?

Many members of Block expressed frustration at the difficulty of visiting CMs.

-At the beginning of the year, it would be good to try to promote that if CM Block Members to visit they should invite them.

-It would also be worth clarifying whether Block should attend regional receptions at the start of the year to introduce themselves, as there was some confusion over that this year.

-From NUS' point of view it would be good to clarify the role of Block in Union visits. Whilst Block Members recognised the need to monitor who visits where, Union visits should not be discouraged.

-It would be good to more formally manage who attends which other events, rather than particular members of Block/NEC being favoured. (A formal process for attending Zone Conferences this year was a step forward, but this should happen with all events.)

-It was also strongly felt that Block could be deployed much more as enthusiastic advocates of NUS at events as a matter of course, rather than at the last minute if an FTO can't make something.

-Some Block Members said they'd been left personally out of pocket, as a result of visiting CMs to help with campaigns, or support them, so strongly felt there should be an allowance for such visits.

Although there are differing views about whether Block should be paid, all Block Members, who expressed an opinion, agreed that there should be some sort of designated 'Block budget' and allowance for travel.

-While recognising that any allowance would have to be monitored, to prevent people going on tours of Summer Balls etc, if a visit is clearly NUS related then a travel allowance should be available; the lack of one means people often physically can't visit

the CMs they're supposed to represent.

-It was argued that a budget shouldn't be seen as a last resort, but something that would really help the organisation by allowing some of NUS' most passionate advocates to actually represent it.

-It was also argued that any distinction between giving Block a budget and spending money on campaigning is a false one, as any budget could greatly increase NUS' campaigning capacity, and NUS could save a lot of money internally, through cultural changes, for example on travel and cheaper accommodation.

There is also significant unhappiness that Block are expected to contact CMs by phone at their own expense; the cost of which can be extensive.

Block as a paid role?

Several people felt that Block should be a paid position, while others disagreed.

Although this is a complicated debate, perhaps similar to whether course reps should be paid, ahead of any Governance changes it should be had, as at the moment Block seems neither one thing nor the other, lacking the budget it used to have, but culturally and often in CMs expectations, still seen as more than just a voluntary role.

The fact that Block is unpaid often limits people from devoting large amounts of time to it, as well as arguably rendering the role inaccessible and unattractive to potential candidates.

It also means Block members on low incomes are limited in the extent they can be involved.

On the other side, it was argued that although there should be a Block budget, individual Block members shouldn't be paid, as it should be a voluntary role.

A practical point was raised in that paying Block might also have an unintended impact on Members' tax which should be considered in the debate.

The political role of Block

In terms of the actual purpose and role of Block several people felt it should be part of a wider debate around what we want from a National Executive Committee.

Some felt that Block does add to the organisation's transparency, with independent voices on the NEC providing scrutiny of the leadership and organisation, but that Block Members need to be able to play a larger role of advocates of NUS – to make the best use of our most enthusiastic volunteers and 'keenos'.

-Others emphasised that as Block Members are usually elected on political platforms they should have an enhanced political role.

One issue is that as the NEC has grown in size over recent years, Block's influence as a group has necessarily weakened. In addition much of the policy development, and support for VPs which traditionally came from the Block is now undertaken by Zone Committees.

This is clearly only part of a broader Governance discussion on the role of the NEC, and the inter-relationship of Zones, Sections, and Block, but some suggestions raised include:

- Block could just be drawn from Zone Committees creating an enhanced, dual role. Others were critical of this as it would remove the democratic mandate Block currently has from being elected at National Conference, and would make running for Block accessible to many fewer candidates.
- From the other direction it was also suggested Block Members could also sit on different Zone Committees.
- It was pointed out that there's currently no way sectional reps can feed into Zones' policy recommendations except through amending the policy once it's recommended, and suggested we look at ways Block and Sections can feed into zone policy more.
- Block members have also expressed frustration about not being consulted on policy in advance of NEC meetings; which ties into communication between the NEC and (please) including Block members when circulating/discussing policy.
- The HE Zone Committee, where members were allocated different policy areas and responsibilities based on their interests, was suggested as a possible model for Block members having the ability to develop their own specific portfolios.
- The role of Block Members in supporting FTOs could be formalised at the beginning of the year, with Block Members allocated a specific FTO, although this could just cause more complications
- The Sub-Committees of the NEC, such as the Communications Scrutiny Group could be reviewed to see if they're meeting their purpose, and whether Block could usefully contribute more to them.
- Block could choose from amongst their number people to take on bigger allocated roles as spokespeople or to liaise with the membership. Others felt this might just create more divisions.
- Organisations NUS is affiliated to, such as UAF, could have a Block member allocated to maintaining relationships with them, which would in some cases formalise what already happens.

Although there are clearly many issues with Block to consider, it's only fair to add that one member ended their contribution with 'I've still enjoyed it though!'

* * *

[8 members of Block fed into this – although everyone was asked – so there's probably plenty more feedback to be got from members/former members when we come to the review of Governance.]

Some simple Burnsian question to consider would include:

1. Should Block Members be paid?
2. Should there be a specific budget for Block?
3. Should Block Members be sending out NEC papers and communicating about meetings?
4. How do Block inter-relate with Zones, and is there a way Block could contribute more to them?
5. Is there a space for Block to develop individual specific portfolios as in some Zone Committees?
6. Do the current NEC sub-Committees work and could they play more of a role?
7. How could Block Members scrutinise each other more?

Subject:	Enabling Strategy 4 – Ethical and Environmental
Produced by:	Danielle Grufferty- Vice President Society & Citizenship
To:	NEC
Date:	27 Nov 2012
Action:	To review
Paper	NEC/21V/12

Summary - This report presents the Ethical and Environmental strategy for review and input

1.0 Background

Our Ethical and Environmental (E&E) work started eighteen years ago in NUS Services and for ten years was focussed on greening suppliers and constructive engagement. Over the last seven years, NUS Services' E&E Committee (now the E&E Advisory Group) has led the extension of our E&E work from just supply chain to greening unions, greening institutions and greening communities. Over the last four years, bolstered by grant funding, and under the stewardship of the VP Society and Citizenship, this work has focussed on pro-environmental behaviour change work with students and staff. Since 2009 the E&E Department has been budget positive to the Group, with most of our current projects now being self-funded rather than grant-reliant. The E&E Department currently comprises seventeen members of staff based at various locations in England, but operating across the UK. The Department now sits within NUS Charitable Services, with the original supply-chain greening work having reverted back to the Buying team at NUS Services as part of their core function.

The E&E department's projects and programmes can be viewed at www.nus.org.uk/greener. The three main current projects are:

- Student Switch Off – inter-halls energy competition that uses Facebook and prizes to engage students in energy saving. www.studentswitchoff.org
- Green Impact – departmental environmental accreditation scheme with an awards element that allows student officers or staff to green their workplaces bottom-up. www.green-impact.org.uk
- Student Eats – a Lottery-funded project establishing new student-led food growing spaces at eighteen institutions. www.studenteats.org.uk

2.0 Mission and vision

The E&E Department stated mission and vision is shown in appendix 1. All our programmes and projects are linked through the five strategic pillars. Pillars 2, 3 and 4 relate to improving students' unions and making students' lives better, and 1 and 5 are our social and environmental goals.

3.0 Progress and impact

Through Green Impact Students' Unions we have managed to help member unions reduce common bad environmental practice, such as not selling Fairtrade as default tea and coffee, using unsustainable copier paper, having inefficient lighting, and using patio heaters. The scheme is now in its seventh year and, as the diagram in appendix 2 shows, eighty unions have now achieved at least the Bronze standard, meaning they have tackled many of the key environmental issues we set out to address.

In 2011/12 we delivered Green Impact into 152 organisations (106 students' unions; 46 paying F/HEIs institutions) collectively engaging 1,134 teams, reaching 48,655 staff. Of these, 5,600 were personally involved in a Green Impact committee. In total Green Impact teams clocked up 50,324



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greening actions, 24,167 as a direct result of Green Impact. Additionally we trained up 830 student auditors and project assistants helping them with their employability.

Also in 2011/12, we delivered Student Switch Off into 43 paying institutions reaching 101,000 student rooms in halls. Of these, we engaged just over 20,000 students through social media and face to face events, including developing 900 students as our Student Switch Off Ambassadors. The scheme delivered average energy savings of 6.1% compared to baseline years, saving 609 tonnes of carbon, and returning £2.90 in energy savings for every £1.00 spent by universities.

4.0 Future direction

Through Green Impact Students' Unions we have taken leadership of the sustainability agenda and can now, as locally individual students' unions, or as movement, credibly lobby on sustainability-related issues.

To ensure we keep Gold-standard unions engaged, this year we launched Green Impact Students' Unions Excellence. Unions that have achieved two consecutive Gold standards are eligible for Excellence, which involves being allowed a year off the workbook to complete a bigger collaborative project with their institution, supported by us. There are 22 unions are taking part in Excellence this year and the project options include greening the curriculum, ethical finance and biodiversity.

Through our previous work with Defra, we know that both Green Impact and Student Switch Off can deliver changes in behaviours with swings of up to 15%. We have also recently completed a research project for Defra on the barriers and motivators of pro-environmental behaviours, which has helped us underpin our projects in psychological theory. A key principle is that of habit discontinuity – basically that individuals in a moment of change in their lives are more likely to break old habits and form new ones, and that habits formed in a moment of change will often last a long time beyond it. Defra cite that one of the biggest moments of changes in anyone's life is the transition to independent living, something that students are going through in their first weeks and months in further or higher education. Student Switch Off is therefore really important in helping students to develop energy-saving habits at a key moment of change that will stick with them beyond their time in halls, giving them financial savings when they move off campus.

We also know that, in a moment of change, social norms are very important. So, if students arrive at their institution and only get energy saving cues in their halls through Student Switch Off, they may not change their attitudes or behaviours. Hence the importance of Green Impact, which helps spread the sustainability vibe across campus in a visible way, contributing to a social norm of sustainability. However, it is also important that sustainability is reflected in what students are learning about in their classrooms and lecture theatres – which is why, for us to fulfil our behaviour change work, we need to green the curriculum.

We have begun groundwork on this. For the last two years, in partnership with the HEA, we have surveyed students nationally and found that consistently over 60% of first year HE students want to learn more about sustainability through existing course content, with them making the link to employability through green growth and jobs. The third year of the survey is currently in the field and the hypothesis is that, with new higher fees, students will be even more concerned with employability, and by association keen to learn about sustainability.

There are various ways that NUS could move into the greening curriculum field – working with student course reps, student governors, through student lead teaching awards, Green Impact Excellence projects (we are already doing this), speaker tours of leading sustainability people for academics, or maybe even accrediting courses for sustainability content. One unexpected way that we have managed to achieve engagement of academics in sustainability is through Student Eats, our local food growing scheme. At Exeter, the students' guild has engaged academics from the psychology department in the scheme who are managing the bee hives, due to the social interactions, the business school to help design the veg box scheme, and the archaeology department by using some of the site to grow ancient dye plants. This covert embedding of sustainability in the curriculum is also happen through Green Impact at Anglia Ruskin, where business studies students are helping us to pilot the scheme in the community.



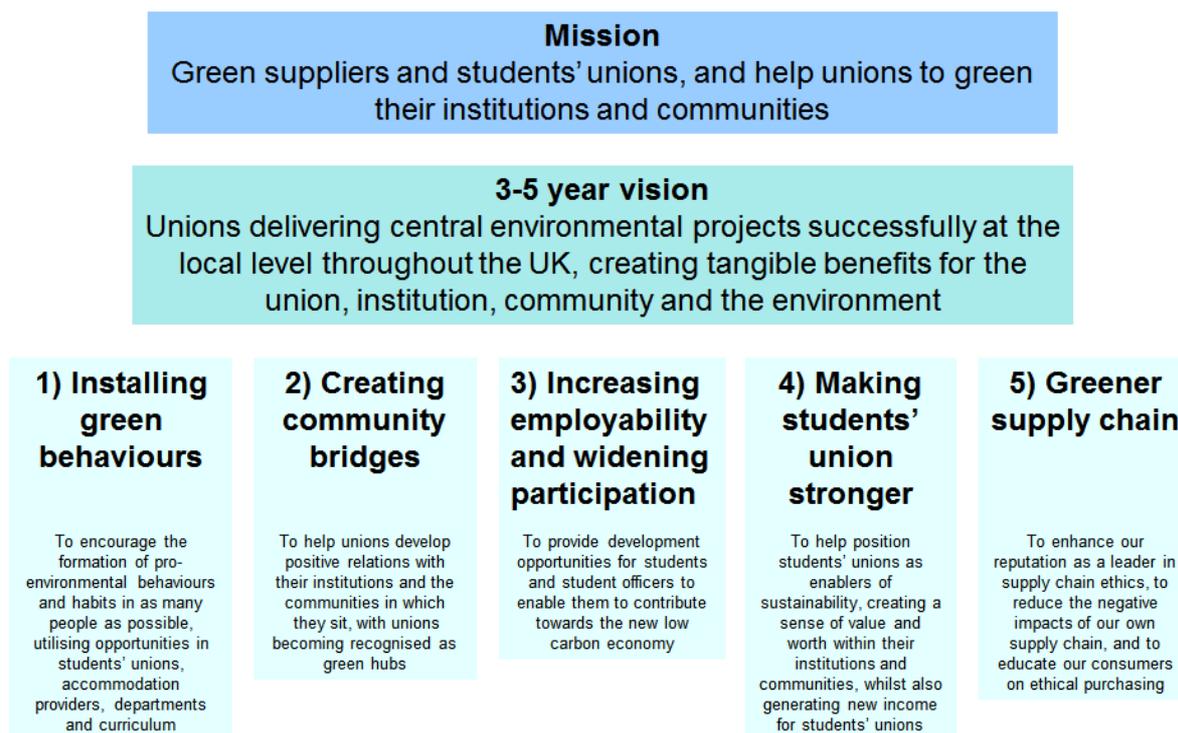
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In addition to our work on behaviours, we have been piloting Green Impact work in the community. Last year we piloted Green Impact in hospitals and local authorities and as a result now have six public sector organisations paying us to deliver the scheme for them. This year we are piloting Green Impact in police stations, fire stations, training providers, sports clubs, visitor centres, charity shops and even in Endsleigh. Through our community applications we are helping to build strong community bridges on and off campus, as well as helping to get the students we train up as project assistants and auditors in to off-campus organisations, helping them with their employability. We think Green Impact would work well in private rented student accommodation, in SMEs like hotels and pubs, large businesses like law firms and banks, and public facilities like doctors' surgeries and courts. We also think the Student Switch off model would work well in schools and prisons. As we develop our models for different community applications, there is a fantastic opportunity for our members unions to become sustainability hubs in their local communities – first greening themselves through Green Impact, then their institutions, and finally out into the wider community through their existing contacts and reach.

5.0 Discussion

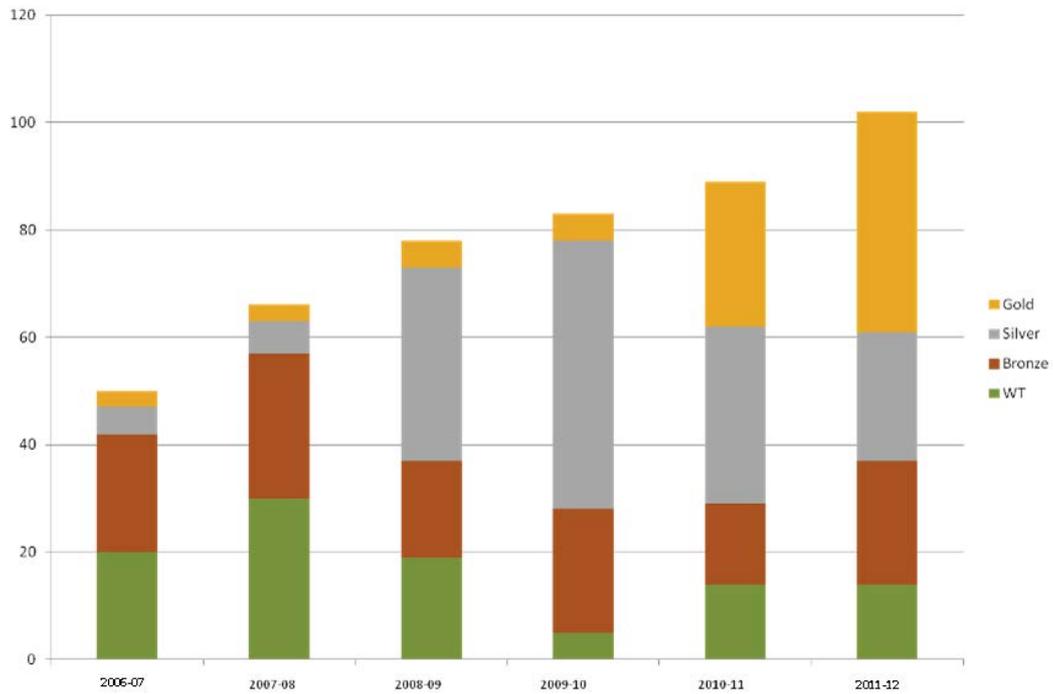
Although this paper is primarily an overview of the work of the E&E Department, and our key work this year, the NEC are invited to comment on the enabling strategy and departmental plan.

Appendix 1 E&E department vision and mission



report

Appendix 2 Number of unions achieving given standards in Green Impact Students' Unions 2006/07 to 2011/12



Purpose of Paper: This paper describes NUS Charitable Services, its work and relationship with NUS and the Union Development Zone. It outlines the charity's plan for 2012/13 and describes ideas under discussion to further develop its Governance. It is for **discussion**.

Background: The NUS Charity

NUS Charitable Services was created in 2010 under clause 9.17 of the NUS Constitution as an arm's length, limited liability charitable vehicle within the NUS group. The original intent was that it houses all of NUS' capacity building work with students' unions since the assumption was that this work was charitable. In addition it houses NUS' externally funded Ethical and Environmental work, which is not covered in this paper.

However detailed advice and further discussion at the time caused us to revise this view.

- Some capacity building work that was carried out by NUS Staff looked close to political campaigning work (for example, activist development programmes) and thus may have aroused suspicion when examined by regulators.
- Some research and policy work carried out by the VP Union Development, the "Union Development" zone committee or the staff supporting is explicitly directed by NUS National Conference. Whilst it was sensible for there to be considerable overlap between the Trustee Board of the NUS and the Charity for tax purposes (doing so allowed a single VAT group), the charity had to remain independent of NUS and thus this work could not be explicitly directed by "main NUS" structures per se.

Three "tests" were created to guide us on what functions could or should be placed within the charity:

1. That the activity was **charitable** in nature
 - That it is within the charity's objects (these were drafted to wider than just "education")
 - That they fit within allowed charitable purposes and are for the public benefit.
 - The reality was that virtually everything we do for students' unions would comfortably meet this test.
2. That the activity was capable of being **technically independent** of NUS' political structures
 - The key legal issue is that the Charity remains technically independent of NUS. Practically it will share part of its title, many of its trustees and a VAT group with NUS.
 - This involved us being internally satisfied that the activity was unlikely to be the subject of regular and direct political mandate from National Conference.
3. That the activity is sufficiently "**commodifiable**" as to ensure financial transparency in recharges (in accordance with the charities financial regulations) from NUS, NUSSL etc
 - This meant that defined services or programmes are much easier to run through the charity than, say, part a job description.
 - There was a need to ensure that as little "recharging" as possible is done to ensure we meet the aim of simplifying the structure.

Thus a decision was made to place some key functions directly within the Charity:

- Strategic Support Unit (via partnership with Greenhouse)
- SUEI- Students' Union Quality Mark (purchased and redeveloped)
- Talent Management (Former AMSU functions arising out of AMSU merger)
- Olympics Project (funded by Coca Cola)
- Environmental work (previously housed in NUSSL)

Charity Plan 2012-13

The Charity's delivery plan is attached for information. As Chair of the Charity I can answer questions in the meeting.

Developing the Accountability arrangements

The Charity is technically independent of NUS and so is not directly mandated by National Conference. It approves its own plans and budgets through its Trustee Board. However, it clearly has a pivotal delivery role in relation to many policy areas inside the UD (and some in Soc/Cit). As a result we have considered how best to protect the Charitable Status of the body whilst allowing for a line of accountability from National Conference, through the Vice President and Zone Committee, and into the work of the Charity.

Because the Charity is funded in large part through donation by NUS, an annual **remit and activity** statement can be developed, proposed by the Vice President Union Development for approval by the NEC, that describes work that we will ask to be carried out by the Charity that is being funded by NUSUK (in a restricted fund donation if necessary).

It will outline key priorities for Union Development work in the year ahead. It will be developed from a mixture of a review of the Charity's work in the previous year through a paper to UD Zone and NEC, manifesto commitments, and consultation and planning with the membership and be presented to the September NEC each year.

Draft Remit and Activity Statement 2012-13

A number of areas of work and priorities have emerged from NUS National Conference, and in manifestos from NUS elected officers, that we believe would be best delivered through NUS Charitable Services. This year's donation to NUS Charitable Services from NUS should, as far as possible, be used to deliver on the following priorities:

Student Opportunities

It is important that the student movement focuses on student opportunities, bringing together a coherent strategy on student development including but not limited to societies, sports, volunteering, student media, fundraising, employment and entrepreneurship. To this end, the strategy includes:

- Quality student opportunities
- Student leadership
- Skills for employment
- Strong staff, officer and student support for student opportunities
- Measuring the impact of student opportunities

Strong Unions

Many aspects of the work of the Charity focus on the development of strong students' unions. As such it is critical that the following areas are worked on.

- Helping students' unions to understand and define their impact
- The re-development and launch of a new quality model, relevant to all HE unions (a model for FE will be developed by NUS)
- Developing ideas to support fundraising in students' unions to diversify funding sources

Developing the Governance of the Charity

In addition to developing the accountability arrangements, there is a clear demand from student officers and SU staff for more involvement in volunteer groups on key issues than the existing Union Development Zone structures and Charity Board offer. In addition there is a demand for more scrutiny of the Charity's plans from SUs.

As a result we are considering the following changes to **Governance** Arrangements:

- That the Charity holds an annual **Scrutiny and Strategy** Event for the wider membership to scrutinise budgets and activity, elect student members to the Board and approve an annual plan.
- That the current **Charitable Services Advisory Group** is abolished in its current form and replaced by more creative ways of involving staff and officers.
- That the Charity develops three "**Direction and Oversight**" groups to drive work in the three identified remits consisting of SU staff, officers and externals. Each would have 50% places reserved for self-defining women and 50% open to any gender. A number of student members of these bodies will be annually elected at Union Development Zone Conference. The three groups will be:
 - **Quality Mark Direction and Oversight Group** – Currently the SUEI (Students' Union Evaluation Initiative) development board. This will oversee changes to the quality model and audit methods, apply standards and receive reports on trends. It will make recommendations to the accreditation panel on the development of new opt-in programmes.
 - **Organisational Development Direction and Oversight Group** – This will effectively replace the current advisory group and oversee our work on strategic support and people development. It will identify new development projects arising from trends presented by the Strategic Support Unit. It will also lead on the student movement learning and development strategy and make funding decisions on collaborative projects from students' unions (currently using the 'Spirit of AMSU (The Association of Managers of Students' Unions) fund'). It will also oversee the operation and creation of staff specialist groups/communities of practice.
 - **Student Opportunities Development and Oversight Group** – This will replace the Olympic steering group and enable officers and staff (particularly at practitioner level) to bring together new thinking on student opportunities. It would also oversee strategic relationships with partner organisations such as BUCS (British Universities and Colleges Sport), the National Student Drama Festival and Volunteering England, NaSFA (National Student Fundraising Association), National Student Media Representatives and so on.

**SUMMARY KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR
NATIONS 2012 - 2013**

THEME	NATION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
Winning on Funding and Participation	NUS – USI	Discussion document on the future of Tertiary Education in Northern Ireland is produced (May 2013)
	NUS – USI	EMA is protected for as many students as possible (June 2013)
	NUS Scotland	Report on the impact of changes to travel expenses published at NUS Scotland Conference (March 2013)
	NUS Scotland	4 Regional campaign planning meetings are held (March 2013)
	NUS Wales	Discussion document on the future of post 16 education is published (December 2012)
	NUS Wales	A third of NUS Wales students' unions attend Demo 2012 (November 2012)
Making Education Better	NUS – USI	Student Led teaching Award events take place at Stranmillis and St. Mary's Colleges (April 2013)
	NUS – USI	Quantify media coverage to set a benchmark for 2013 – 2014 (June 2013)
	NUS Scotland	Briefing on quality processes circulated to students' associations (January 2013)
	NUS Scotland	Produce and circulate a briefing on student partnership agreements (March 2013)
	NUS Wales	Course Rep Accreditation Framework published (May 2013)
	NUS Wales	HYS Toolkit distributed July 2013
Securing a Fairer Society	NUS – USI	Concessions given on funding for nurses and midwives (December 2012)
	NUS – USI	Evidence of meetings with Ministers concerning the blood donation ban (June 2013)
	NUS Scotland	Five town hall meetings take place on the future of Scotland (May 2013)
	NUS Scotland	SDS toolkit is produced and circulated (June 2013)
	NUS Wales	Liberation training event takes place (February 2013)
	NUS Wales	40 th Anniversary project Document distributed and discussed (December 2012)

THEME	NATION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
Transforming students through activities and development	NUS – USI	5 master classes run in NUS – USI (with 75% satisfaction rating)
	NUS – USI	Evidence of REC attendance on campus via CRMS reports
	NUS Scotland	Paper with proposals on officer development programmes in Scotland to the Trustee Board (January 2013)
	NUS Scotland	Staff and officers attend a network event on student activities (February 2013)
	NUS Wales	Student Media Forum takes place in Wales (March 2013)
Building strong students' unions	NUS – USI	Course Rep Toolkit circulated to colleges in Northern Ireland (June 2013)
	NUS – USI	Mapping report on SU provision in the NI college sector produced (November 2012)
	NUS Scotland	Two staff networks are developed (December 2012)
	NUS Scotland	Edinburgh College has a fit for purpose constitution in place (March 2013)
	NUS Wales	10 Welsh FE colleges receive student governor training (December 2012)
	NUS Wales	Welsh ODP developed and publicised (March 2013)

Subject: **Learning and development plan for Officer Development Programme (ODP) 2013**

Produced by: Vicki Baars

To: NEC

Date: 12 November 2012

Action: For information and discussion

Summary
 This paper outlines the learning and development plan for ODP 2013, which presents the national summer course schedule as well as detailing the plans for a master class and trusteeship programmes, and the future E-learning strategy.

1. Introduction

Following the review of the Officer Development Programme 2012, we have considered the following:

- The Education and Representation, and Welfare and Community courses worked well separately, however, running them back to back in the same week was quite overwhelming and tiring for some officers who attended both. Although, there were cost savings for unions whose Education and Welfare officers attended both in the same week. After research with unions who have the post of Education and Welfare officer, overall officers are happy that they are back to back, with maybe an afternoon/morning in between for down time and networking time for just Education and Welfare officers.
- There will remain residential courses for the following officer portfolio areas: societies, sport and volunteering, and communications/media. Exploring ways to involve BUCS in the former portfolio course
- We will be undertaking research to investigate whether there is membership demand for Understanding and Supporting Liberation to become a 2-day residential instead of a 1-day Conference. Bearing in mind this will increase the cost of the event.
- Whilst the Master class programme was well received by the officers (and a few staff) that attended, a majority of classes only attracted an average of 5 delegates across the 29 classes that were offered. In fact, 10 classes were cancelled due to lack of registrations with only 1 class delivered in NUS Wales.
- The review highlighted that a key group of officers who do not attend ODP or SU2012 are from small and/or specialist unions. Therefore, we are considering a course targeted at this group, which will be discussed with officers from these unions in meetings we are holding for them in the coming months.

2. NUS summer training programme 2013

Outlined below is the programme for summer 2013. It is worth noting that this timetable, as far as possible, does not clash with the following events:

- Union officer handover and internal union training
- NUS full time officer induction and Board induction
- Students' Union 2013 Conference: 2 – 3 July 2013, to be confirmed
- BUCS Conference: 9 – 12 July 2013, to be confirmed
- Unipol training: 20 – 21 August 2013
- Bank Holidays – 5 August 2013 (Scotland only) 26 August 2013

Week commencing	National Courses						Venue
	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
18 June		FE Leadership					To be confirmed when LSIS funding is confirmed
24 June	FTO Induction and Board Induction						
1 July		SU 2013 Conference and NUS Awards					To be confirmed
8 July	Union in-house training and BUCS Conference						
15 July	Education and Representation						To be confirmed
				Welfare and Community			



Paper

Week commencing	National Courses					Sat	Venue
	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri		
22 July		NEC Meeting	Understanding and Supporting Liberation	Communications for Action			To be confirmed
29 July		Leading Active Student Involvement					To be confirmed
5 August	Bank Holiday	Lead and Change 1					South venue: to be confirmed
12 August		Lead and Change 2					North venue: to be confirmed
19 August		Unipol training					-
26 August	Bank Holiday	Master classes					NUS Offices
2 September		Master classes					NUS Offices
9 September		Master classes					NUS Offices

The overall programme will be co-ordinated by the Learning and Development Advisor. Each course will be developed or revised by a 'course development group', led by key NUS officers and staff, with support from students' union officers and staff. The following departments will be responsible for the delivery of the following national courses:

- Further Education: FE Leadership
- Higher Education: Education and Representation
- Social Policy: Welfare and Community
- Democracy and Governance: Understanding and Supporting Liberation Conference
- Democracy and Governance: Leading Active Student Involvement
- Marketing and Communications: Communications for Action
- Strategic Development: Lead and Change

3. Master class programme 2013

It is proposed that the 2013 programme will be made up of one-day classes in across fewer locations delivered by internal experts. There was a nominal charge of £15 (excl. VAT) per delegate this year and it is envisioned that this cost will stay the same for next year.

It is proposed that we focus on the following topics, which were the most popular:

- Women and leadership
- University level negotiations
- Internationalising your manifesto
- Working with the media
- Dealing with conflict
- Project planning skills (potentially delivered by Endsleigh)

4. Trustee Training programme 2013

This year we have developed a range of learning and development solutions for student and sabbatical trustees delivered across the year, beginning with a one-day 'Introduction to Trusteeship' delivered in house by NUS Contacts, followed by webinars and briefings across terms one and two, one-day regional workshops in term two and culminating with a Student Movement Governance Conference in May 2013. Parts of the programme will be supported by other experts in the sector, such as the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.

It is envisaged that a full review of this programme will take place in May 2013 with plans developed for 2013/14 post review.

5. E-learning solutions

A strategy is currently being developed to deliver long-term online learning solutions for officers to compliment the national courses and other learning and development activities across the NUS Group. This strategy will be submitted to the NEC for information and discussion in the New Year.



In any event, whilst the NUS Trustee Board is charged with the regulation and mitigation of risk, it is the NUS Democratic Procedures Committee that is charged with the regulation of NUS' Democratic Structures. The DPC has responsibilities and powers that are both directly applied (for example in relation to National Conference) and indirectly applied (by devolving its powers and responsibilities to other bodies such as the NEC Clerks, or Nations' procedures committees).

The DPC does hold a series of residual powers in relation to ruling motions "out of order" that can be adapted on the basis that it requires the submitter of any motion criticising an individual or organisation to fully justify any such critique, to the DPC's satisfaction. This can be operationalized with the NUS staff team, albeit with a considerable additional workload that will need to be considered in the round. In addition, in devolving its powers to other bodies, the DPC can require that the other bodies act in a similar way- and this can also be practically operationalized within the NUS staff team. In the round more robust regulations that set out the standard of proof required for an accusation or critique to be made in a motion should be developed and added to the NUS rules, and the circumstances under which the DPC or devolved bodies would require a motion to be ruled out of order should also be developed and added.

The standard of proof ought to require robust evidence for any allegation being made. For example, where the basis for an allegation is the reported comments of an individual, the proposer of the motion ought to go to the horse's mouth to verify that the individual (or indeed, spokesman of a corporate entity or group) really made those comments. Proposers will be required to take care to avoid being fooled by misreporting, by comments taken out of context or even by third parties impersonating that individual/spokesman, for instance on fake Facebook profiles. Defamatory facts ought either to be sourced (reliably) from the person/organisation being criticised and or from robust, reliable third-party sources (ideally multiple sources)

Recommendations

The committee is invited to:

- Consider and discuss the issues detailed herein in the round
- Approve the overall approach outlined to manage the risks
- Consider how we might regulate the process of debate itself (and whether in light of advice we need to cease "live streaming" or "live tweeting" our meetings)
- Begin work on regulations to be added to the NUS constitution on burden of proof and ruling motions "out of order"

Emergency motions to NEC

Emergency

Motion 1: Israel's assault on Gaza must end!
Submitted by: Aaron Kiely
Seconded by: Jamie Woodcock, Matt Stanley, Vicki Baars

NUS NEC believes:

1. Israel launched a military assault on Gaza, starting on Wednesday 14 November.
2. Israel's assault has caused hundreds of casualties, including 19 Palestinians deaths, 6 of who were children and 3 Israeli deaths.
3. At the time of writing (Friday 16 November, 11am) there were numerous threats from the Israeli government and military to launch a ground invasion of Gaza. Such an escalation will lead to more casualties, death and destruction.

NUS NEC further believes:

1. The blockade of Gaza which has been imposed by Israel for 5 years, was recently described by United Nations Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator as "an open air prison".
2. The British Prime Minister David Cameron stated in July 2010 that the "people in Gaza are living under constant attacks and pressures in an open air prison."

NUS NEC Resolves:

1. To condemn and call for an immediate end to Israel's air strikes on Gaza and the killings of Palestinians.
 2. To call for an immediate ceasefire.
 3. To condemn and call for an immediate end to the siege on Gaza.
 4. To encourage students to join the peaceful protests organised by the Palestine Solidarity Campaign against Israel's assault on Gaza.
-

Emergency

Motion 2: The Middle East and supporting students
Submitted by: Pete Mercer
Seconded by: Steph Lloyd, Emma Meehan

NUS NEC believes:

1. Israel is now involved in an assault on Gaza as a result of the recent surge of rockets from the Gaza strip and the assassination of a top Hamas military commander.
2. Palestinians and Israelis have suffered deaths and numerous casualties as a result.
3. At the time of writing, there is likely to be an escalation of violence in Israel and Gaza.
4. Students' unions should remain safe spaces for all students, where different views can be challenged in a open, supportive and constructive environment, without anyone feeling threatened.
5. Students should be encouraged to take an active role in the world around us, especially with regard to conflict zones such as Israel-Palestine.
6. Discussions around Israel-Palestine are highly contested and have resulted at times to a deterioration of good campus relations.
7. Dialogue, rather than debate, is the best way to solve conflict on campus and in the wider world. NUS plays a vital role in creating a safe space on campus for dialogue and discussion.

NUS NEC further believes:

1. The escalation of violence in the Gaza strip and Israel is unacceptable and unsustainable.
2. That Palestinians and Israelis both have the right to live in peace.
3. Students in the UK, as part of global civil society, should be demanding that all parties involved in Israel and Palestine should urgently call for an end of the illegal Occupation and the achievement of a democratic, just and secure peace between Israelis, Palestinians, and their neighbours.

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NUS NEC resolves:

1. To condemn all violence towards Gaza and Israel.
 2. To call for an immediate ceasefire.
 3. To encourage students to join and support peaceful and constructive solutions to end the conflict and prioritise the welfare of the students on their campuses at this time, providing a safe space for all students.
 4. To encourage SUs to support all groups on campuses, promoting peaceful dialogue and to use the NUS guidance on hate speech.
-

Emergency

Motion 3: Defend Daniel Cooper- Defend the right to criticise war and militarism

Submitted by: Mike Williamson

Seconded by: Jamie Woodcock, Roshni Joshi

NUS NEC notes

1. The controversy surrounding ULU Vice President (and then Acting President) Daniel Cooper declining to lay a wreath at the University of London Remembrance ceremony.
2. That Daniel violated no mandate, since ULU currently has no policy on this issue.
3. That in the last week a right-wing campaign has begun for Daniel to resign.

NUS NEC believes

1. That Daniel believes that the official Remembrance campaign glorifies and justifies Britain's record of militarism in world politics - from violence in Ireland to the First World War to Afghanistan today - as well as the treatment of British soldiers (and civilians) by the military command and establishment.
2. That whatever your stance on these issues and on taking part in official Remembrance events, it makes no sense to claim that such an anti-militarist stance "disrespects the dead". There is a tradition of honouring the dead (on all sides - not just those who fought "for Britain") by criticising and fighting the system which resulted in their deaths.
3. That we should strongly defend student officers' and activists' right to take such a stance. This is a crucial issue for NUS and for our whole movement.

NUS NEC resolves

1. To add NUS's name to the statement in defence of Daniel, circulate it to our constituent members and encourage student activists to add their names.
 2. To sponsor a public meeting in London early next year to discuss the issues, with speakers from various sides of the debate, including Daniel.
-

No Confidence Motion Cover Paper

Part of the NEC's role in regard to our new governance structures, specific to the separation of roles, powers and responsibilities between the NEC and the trustee board, was to act as a check and balance to ensure that the trustee board did not interfere with the political will of the National Executive Council and/or elected officers, given this was one of the legitimate concerns raised during the governance review itself.

Edd Bauer, one of the student trustees, used the social media site twitter to publish criticisms concerning the national demonstration, its route and messaging as well as encouraging participants of the demonstration to break from the agreed route. The National President wrote to Edd as a trustee raising concerns that he had both put participants of the national demonstration at risk, had contradicted the NEC's agreed position that safety would be paramount when organising the demonstration and had also entered into public political criticism of elected officers decisions without another legitimate status in which to do so (ie student or student officer).

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Having written to him as a trustee an open response was published on facebook refuting such concerns and proceeding to once again criticise the logistics of the demonstration indeed to deliver on the will of the NEC in that the demonstration should be safe as well as messaging and purpose once again arrived at through the will of the NEC.

The National President believes that the first act of publicly criticising decisions made by elected officers following agreed intent from the NEC is in and of itself a serious concern. However any ambiguity concerning the role in which Edd was making comment from is almost certainly negated by the fact that in a reply to a letter to Ed explicitly in his role as a trustee, and hence in which a reply can only be interpreted as Edd in his role as a trustee, on a public forum which once again criticises decisions taken by elected officers from the will of the NEC.

The content of political criticism from a trustee is beside the point, other than to note that the National President believes that encouraging participants of the national demo to break from the agreed route could almost certainly be considered under the code of conduct.

In regards to putting both participants and organisers of the demo at risk, the role of the NEC is to ensure that the trustee board works exclusively to deliver on the will of the NEC unless it believes there to be an acceptable financial and legal risk with actions. The National President believes that both the original comments on twitter and open letter on facebook, but almost certainly the open letter which is a reply to a communication explicitly intended for Edd as a trustee represent a gross contravention of this principle.

Hence the National President is recommending the removal of Edd Bauer as a trustee of the National Union Of Students.

This motions require a two thirds majority vote in order to pass with effect.

Emergency

Motion 4: Motion of No Confidence in Edd Bauer, Student Trustee
Submitted by: Liam Burns
Seconded by: Adrienne Peltz, Pete Mercer, Steph Lloyd

NEC Believes:

1. The Articles of the National Union of Students state that:
 - “The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the management and administration of the National Union and may exercise all the powers of the National Union as set out in these Articles of Association and the Rules. Subject to Article 69 below the Trustee Board’s principal function in exercising its powers, duties and functions shall be to serve the aims, objects and wishes of the National Conference, National Executive Council and committees in line with Policy set out by those bodies.”
 - “The Board of Trustees shall only have the power to overrule administrative implications of decisions of the National Conference, the National Executive Council, the Nations, the Liberation Campaigns, the Student Sections, the Zones and/or the Democratic Procedures Committee on the following grounds
 - o financial risk; and
 - o legal requirementsand the Trustee Board shall seek appropriate external advice before exercising its power to overrule and shall report every exercise of its power to overrule the National Conference in line with the Rules.
 - The Trustee Board shall not have any power to overrule or amend Policy and it shall not have the power to overrule Rule changes made by the National Conference in line with Article 101”
2. The Articles also state that:

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- “The office of a Trustee shall be vacated if a motion of no confidence in the Trustee detailing the way in which the Trustee is failing in her duty to make sure the delivery of NUS’ aims and objects and political wishes as expressed through the National Conference, National Executive Council and related bodies is passed by a two thirds majority vote of the National Conference or National Executive Council as further detailed in the Rules”
3. At the last meeting of the Trustee Board, the trustee board asked the NEC to come to a political position on what should happen in the event that things do not go to plan and the demonstration ends violently or with a number of people getting arrested.
 4. As a result a paper was endorsed that stated that: “Ensuring we have done all we can to create a safe environment is a key priority for us. We will be issuing students’ unions with guidance on what they can do to make the demonstration safe and we intend to be clear in our messaging to students’ unions and directly to students where we can that we have clear expectations from those taking part that they act lawfully.”
 5. On the 12th and 15th October respectively, Edd Bauer (Student Trustee) used the social networking site Twitter to state that:
 6. “#NUS demo route looking rubbish, misses Parliament Sq, Whitehall & Milbank, the places where all the Tories are & shit.”
 7. “I know this has got me trouble before but... I think we need to deviate from the planned route.” (with a link to an article concerning the route for the national demonstration)
 8. In addition to tweets, he has responded to a letter sent to him as a Trustee by the National President criticising the NEC, the route and demo plans. He has made this latter public on Facebook.

NEC Further Believes;

1. It is deeply inappropriate for a trustee to publically criticise the democratically reached decision of the NEC. The route was decided for a number of reasons, including:
 - proximity to key symbols of political power such as the Palace and Portcullis House
 - the accessibility of the route
 - is accessible and a reasonable length
 - has key visual moments for press coverage
 - the fact that Hyde Park was not available and hence an alternative rallying point was needed
 - and (although not solely but additionally) because it does not include areas that are at high risk of inciting incidents that would compromise safety, as asked for by the NEC.
2. Whether Edd agrees with this analysis in terms of politically effective protest routes or not, Edd’s role as a trustee is to deliver on the will of the NEC unless there are financial or legal risks incurred by a proposed action or view.
3. Despite requests to do so, Edd has failed to acknowledge that he understands the concerns and has refused to agree in writing that making public comment will not be made again.
4. As such the NEC believes that Edd is failing in his duty to ensure the delivery of NUS’ aims and objects and political wishes as expressed through the National Executive

NEC Resolves:

1. That it has “No Confidence” in Edd Bauer as student trustee in accordance with the rules.

Motion 1: Don’t block our blocks

Submitted by: Joe Vinson

Seconded by: Adrienne Peltz, Danielle Grufferty, Jo Johnson, Robin Parker, Stacey Devine, Dom Anderson

NEC believes:

1. That government attempts to remove block registration from university accommodation as part of the move to Individual Electoral Registration (IER) is a threat to students and students’ unions

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2. That block registration facilitates increased civic participation in voting by allowing thousands of students who move location each year to re-register easily
3. That Paul Blomfield MP is correct when he says what the government is doing is tantamount to accusing universities of currently committing electoral fraud

NEC Further Believes:

1. That moves to bring in online registration are due in no small part to lobbying from NUS and SUs
2. That SUs have a significant role to play in voter registration and democratic engagement amongst both students and in their local communities
3. That no citizen should be blamed or punished for miscommunication of the new system; i.e. in the event of someone accidentally committing electoral fraud

NEC Resolves:

1. To support any amendments to the IER bill challenging the removal of block registration
2. To support unions to put pressure on their MPs to support any amendments in this vein, and name and shame those MPs who do not
3. To put pressure on the government and electoral commission (EC) to work with SUs to communicate the new legislation to students
4. To work with the electoral commission to ensure SUs are given power at local levels to support EROs in registering people to vote
5. To work with the EC to come up with more innovative ways to engage the disenfranchised in voting using the unique power of students' unions
6. To welcome the move to online registration and use it to motivate a call for online voting and increased engagement with social media as a tool to increase registration.

Motion 2: Condemn Cameron's Welfare Cuts
Submitted by: Emma Meehan
Seconded by: Adrienne Peltz, Danielle Grufferty, Jo Johnson, Robin Parker, Stacey Devine, Dom Anderson

NEC believes:

1. That on the 25th June 2012 the PM David Cameron announced a series of cuts to the Welfare budget.
2. That the proposals included the intention to cut Housing benefits for under 25s, linking benefits to wages rather than inflation, time limiting benefits if someone has been out of work for a long period of time, and requiring those on employment support allowance to 'improve their medical condition' in return for benefits.
3. That the Joseph Rowntree Foundation recently published a report, Housing options and solutions for young people, which concludes that an extra half a million young people will be forced to stay with their parents well into their 30s, taking the total number of young people living with parents to 3.7 million by 2020.
4. That the same report predicted that at least 81,000 under-25s will end up homeless by 2020.
5. That the National Office of Statistics have published figures that state at the end of 2011, up to a fifth of graduates were unemployed and a further third were in non-graduate level jobs.

NEC Further Believes:

1. That the housing benefit cuts proposals deliberately target and stigmatise young people and students negatively.
2. That many of the proposals are an out-and-out attack on the poorest and most vulnerable people and families in the UK.
3. That housing benefit allows graduates and young people to live independently whilst seeking employment.
4. That many students are unable to rely upon living with a parent or guardian during or after education and should be supported to live independently.

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5. That by 2020 the UK housing crisis will have deepened, cutting over 1 million young people out of home ownership.
6. That the consequence of this mean a squeeze on the Private Rented Sector, resulting in graduates competing with young families, and poorer more vulnerable people for tenancies.
7. That these proposals will only deepen the problem of graduate unemployment by forcing people to move to areas with few jobs, reducing their chances of finding graduate employment.
8. That if these cuts are implemented it will force millions into poverty and leave many homeless.

NEC Resolves:

1. To condemn and actively oppose the Government's proposed welfare cuts.
2. To condemn and actively oppose the Government's proposals to cut housing benefits for under 25s.
3. To lobby the Government to invest in affordable housing for vulnerable young people and families.
4. To continue to campaign for affordable housing for students and graduates.
5. To continue to support Student Unions in setting up local ethical letting agencies to provide fair affordable housing for students.

Motion 3: Opposing deportations of students
Submitted by: Daniel Stevens
Seconded by: Michael Chessum, Luke James, Fee Wood, Dennis Esch

NUS NEC believes:

1. On the morning of October 18 2012, Cardiff and Vale College students Ibrahim and Liaily el-Attar and their mother, Fariman Saleh, were taken by the UK Border Agency (UKBA) in a dawn raid and subsequently deported to their country of origin, Egypt, despite their asylum claim remaining unresolved. A fourth member of the family, Shrouk el-Attar, is on a separate asylum claim and as of this writing remains a student at Cardiff & Vale College.
2. The NUS International Students' Campaign has recently has begun engaging with the National Coalition of Anti-Deportation Campaigns (NCADC).
3. In autumn 2012 NCADC launched a toolkit on campaigning non-violently to fight deportations, with emphasis on intervening with airlines carrying out deportation flights in order to prevent them.
4. NCADC's database of deportation case histories shows lobbying of airlines, and of airline pilots in particular, coupled with lobbying of the Home Office, to be successful in stopping deportations.

NUS NEC further believes:

1. The deportation of the el-Attar family prior to the legal resolution of their asylum claim is out of order. Moreover, the breaking up of the family violates all members' right to a family life as guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights.
2. Other student deportations have taken place where NUS and its constituent members either had no knowledge or found out too late to intervene.
3. Academic merit should be the sole determinant for participation on a course; students accepted onto a course and participating in that course should not be hindered by the UKBA from studying and completing those courses.

NUS NEC resolves:

1. To condemn the deportation of Ibrahim & Liaily el-Attar and their mother and to call for their return.
2. For the National President to write to airlines asking them to stop their involvement with deportation flights
3. For the National President to look to forming partnerships with different trade unions to strengthen our ability to combat deportations.
4. To encourage member unions to make themselves aware of students at risk of deportation

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and to relay key facts and information to NUS with an eye to aiding member unions in preparations for UK-wide lobbies of the Home Office and involved airlines when a deportation begins.

5. To explore affiliation to NCADC and present recommendations on affiliation no later than NUS National Conference 2013.
6. To circulate the NCADC anti-deportation toolkit to constituent members.
7. NUS calls for the entry and exit of students across UK borders to be on the basis of academic merit, and for partnership between students and relevant academic & travel workers to ensure this.

Motion 4: Liberating student unions to tackle hate crime
Submitted by: Fee Wood
Seconded by: Aaron Kiely, Hannah Paterson, Jo Johnson, Kelley Temple, Reni Eddo-Lodge, Sky Yarlett, Stacey Devine

NUS NEC believes:

1. That there are so called 'Confessions Pages' which have been appearing on social media sites, which invite students to share, their confessions of hate crimes and violence against women and to 'like' and encourage each other's 'confessions'.
2. There are also some student run media outlets publishing 'articles' which encourage students to gain social capital by instigating and participating in hate crimes, by reinforcing derogatory stereotypes of liberation groups and encouraging violence and sexual harassment against women students
3. These 'pages' and 'articles' are being presented as 'humorous' and 'entertaining'
4. Some examples include seeking praise and boasting of racially motivated attacks and 'terrorising' of black students as 'antics' and 'banter', humiliating people who 'confess' to having sexual relations with a student in a wheelchair, talking about trying out being LGBT as if LGBT people are an 'experiment' and encouraging public sexual harassment towards women on campus.
5. 18 per cent of black/black British, Asian/Asian British, mixed race and Chinese students have experienced at least one racial hate incident during their current studies.
6. Eight per cent of disabled students said that they had experienced at least one hate incident while studying at their current institution, which they believed was motivated by prejudice against their disability.
7. Thirty-one per cent of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) students have experienced at least one hate incident related to their sexual orientation some time during their current studies, compared to 2 per cent of heterosexual students.
8. Fifty-five per cent of trans students have been a victim of threatening, abusive or insulting words, threatening behaviour or threats of violence.
9. Over two thirds of women students (68%) have experienced some kind of verbal or non-verbal harassment in and around their institution. This kind of behaviour includes groping, flashing and unwanted sexual comments.

NUS NEC further believes:

1. Degrading and attacking students on the basis of being black, women, disabled and/or LGBT is a hate crime and seeking to redefine these crimes as 'banter' is about reinforcing the inequality which liberation students face in pursuit of their education, celebrating that inequality and seeking praise from other students for their actions.
2. That the intent of these sites and articles in receiving praise from other students is in order to further normalise these behaviours, relieve perpetrators of responsibility from 'wrongdoing' and reinforce the privilege which allows some students to dismiss hate crimes and violence against women students as 'banter' and 'harmless'.
3. This represents an attack on the values of liberation and the right of students who self define into liberation campaigns to participate fully in their education. These confessions pages and articles are another example of the backlash against the fight for equality.

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NUS NEC resolves

1. To help student unions remove and close down confessions pages and articles which contain sexist, disablist, homophobic and racist content
2. To campaign for liberation officers in every union and to support them in providing training in responsible and ethical journalism for student journalists, with a focus on liberation values and equal opportunities policies
3. To encourage and support student unions to establish themselves as 3rd party hate crime reporting centres to allow students to report hate crime
4. To recommend that student unions put a website link to www.liberateyourself.co.uk on their SU website to help students develop a better understanding of liberation and develop their learning

Motion 5: Tell the truth about youth
Submitted by: Pete Mercer
Seconded by: Colum McGuire, Dennis Esch, Hannah Paterson, Reni Eddo-Lodge, Roshni Joshi

NEC believes:

1. Research conducted by the Citizenship Foundation shows that 76% of young people think the press portrays them in a negative light.
2. In the recent Police and Crime Commission election tv advertisements, 6 of the 7 images depicting crime and antisocial behaviour show young people to be the perpetrators.
3. Electoral turn-out is predicted to be low (at 18.5%), but particularly amongst young people with whom little has been done, either nationally or at a local authority level, to engage them in this democratic process.
4. According to research from the Home Office, roughly 1 in 3 students will be a victim of crime during their time of study.

NEC further believes:

1. With prospects looking bleak for many young people, the government should be trying to empower them; instead representations such as these only seek to demonise and condemn young people.
2. This is just another example of young people being stereotyped in the media more broadly, with news items often referring to "hoodies" and "asbos".
3. Whilst young people are regularly depicted as perpetrators of crimes, rarely is it acknowledged that they are the age group most likely to be a victim of crime in society.
4. Young people actually do many amazing things in communities across the UK and beyond, contributing massively to all sorts of volunteering projects and charitable objectives.

NEC resolves:

1. Write to the Home Office complaining about the publicising of the Police and Crime Commissioner elections, asking that any future communications take youth representation into consideration and don't stereotype young people as criminals.
2. Work with the Youth Press Complaints Gateway to ensure the Press Complaints Commission is more accessible to younger ages and using plain English.
3. Work with other youth organisations, such as the British Youth Council and the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS), to lobby to improve journalists' practices (Editors' Code and the NUJ Code of Conduct) when it comes to youth representation and age discrimination.
4. Make the case for and defend citizenship education and continue the fight against the cuts to Enrichment Budgets in colleges.
5. Continue to champion all of the positive work that young people do in their communities through the Activist Development Programme.

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